

A wooden boat with a snake and a bird. The boat is made of dark wood with a woven pattern. A snake is coiled on the left side, and a bird is perched on the right side. The text "the GOSPEL of MARK" is overlaid on the boat.

the GOSPEL
of MARK



More Parables – Ch 4

- The Sower? Seed? Or the SOILS!
- Some soils never have any root
 - Footpath and stony ground (superficial)
- Some soils root, but no fruit
 - Thorny soil (worldliness)
- Good ground = fruitfulness 30,60,100

Making the difference

- He who has ears...
- Jesus applies allegory
 - Seed = Word (*logos*); Satan...thief
- Where are we on potential “yield”?
- Hear the word and accept (20)

A lamp... (21, 22)

- The nature of lamps – shine!
 - Dark places, most needed
 - Truth needs to serve His plan...
 - Holy Spirit = Spirit of truth...
- Hidden things revealed –
- If you have an ear, hear!

What you listen to...

- Be careful what you listen to! (24)
- Truth, open to more truth, but ...
- ...if you deny what you have heard...!
- God looks for those who seek truth
 - Book of Proverbs... 2Cor 10:5
 - Phil 4:8 – whatever is true...

More about planting... (26)

- The Kingdom of God
 - Casting seed – not a lot of science...
 - Night and day – without our knowledge...
 - Process to produce
- Word in a human heart – much the same
 - Produces as part of it's nature... harvest



- Small beginning
- Untidy
- Wild

Black Mustard seeds (30)

- The uncultivated tree of note:
 - Greater than all the other herbs...
 - Protection and shelter “birds”
 - Long term effects, influence
 - What is “wild and out there” in you?
 - Parables – 32,33 Why?

When God is ruling...

Let us embrace this good news and trust that God will grow the kingdom, both with our help, and without our help. The reason this is true is that the kingdom of God is tough and tenacious. There is no amount of apathy or hostility in our world that can stop it from growing and flourishing in the most unlikely of places!

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