

Growth And the Kingdom Of God

Matthew 13:31-35

Intro:

- A. **The kingdom of heaven includes the world.**
 - 1. "The field is the world." V.38
 - 2. This is the place where we work.
 - 3. We are in the world. John 17:15

- B. **There are two forces at work in the Kingdom.**
 - 1. "the good seed are children of the kingdom."
 - 2. "the tares are the children of the wicked ones."
 - 3. The Millennium will succeed because Satan is bound for 1,000 years.

- C. **How do these two forces grow at this time?**
 - 1. One grows like a tree.
 - 2. One grows like leaven.

I. The Growth Of The Church.

- A. **The permission of Jesus.**
 - 1. "As ye are going into all the world"
 - 2. "The field is the world."

- B. **"The kingdom of heaven is like unto a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed n his field:"**
 - 1. grain = kokkos = "a kernel," "a seed." The smallest unit of comparison used by the Jews.
 - 2. mustard = σινάπι = "a plant often growing in Palestine and growing to a considerable size."
 - 3. "which indeed is the least of all seeds:"
v.32
 - 4. least = μικρος = of magnitude, small

- C. **"...but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof."**
 - 1. grown = αυξανω = "to increase", "to grow up"
 - 2. greatest = μεγας = large
 - 3. tree = δενδρον = "a living growing tree"

4. lodge = κατασκηνοω = "to plant down a tent"
5. From a tiny beginning in Galilee the true church spreads into all the world."

II. The Growth Of Evil.

A. **"The Kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven," v.33**

1. leaven = ζυμοω = "to make ferment"
2. It is figurative of: corrupt doctrines, Matthew 16:6, Infectious sin, 1 Corinthians 5:5-57, and false doctrine, Galatians 5:1-9

B. **"...which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened."**

1. Satan leavens the true church.
2. It affects all true churches, some more than others. The faith will survive!

C. **Jesus fulfilled prophecy when He spoke in parables.**

1. **v.34**
2. **v.35**
3. This is the method by which he revealed many kingdom principles.
4. Psalm 78:2-3