

Mark 4:30-34 **Kingdom of God like Mustard Seed**

³⁰ Then He said, "To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; ³² but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade."

³³ And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. ³⁴ But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ The parable of the Growing Seed and the one of the Mustard Seed are the same aspect of the Kingdom of Heaven (Kingdom of God).
 - ✧ It started small, Jesus and the twelve disciples.
 - ✧ It has grown to fill the earth with the message of the Kingdom of Heaven in the Gospel of Jesus, God's way into the Kingdom. The present day Church and all its branches are in every corner of the earth and still growing. [Mark 4:30-33, Matthew 13:31-32, Luke 13:18-19]
- ✚ Most of the parables Jesus taught pertain to various aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven (Kingdom of God).
 - ✧ In fact, the primary focus of the ministry of Jesus, like with John the Baptist, was focused on the Gospel message of the Kingdom of Heaven.
 - ✧ That was also true in regard to His teachings after His resurrection before He ascended to Heaven. [Acts 1:1-3]
 - ✧ The ministry of the Apostles continued the same theme as they continue to prepare a people for the Kingdom of Heaven (Kingdom of God) that is coming when Christ will reign for a thousand years. [Revelation 5:10, 11:15, 20:6, 22:5]
- ✚ When Jesus was alone with the disciples, He explained the parables to them. [Mark 4:34]
- ✚ The disciples of Jesus were given the ability to know the mysteries of the kingdom of Heaven.
 - ✧ These were the ones who had a heart to hear and understand, and expressed interest to know. [Mark 4:10-12, Matthew 13:10-11, Luke 8:9-10]
- ✚ Those who were not disciples, were not given that ability. [Mark 4:11-12, Matthew 13:13-15, Luke 8:10]
 - ✧ These were the ones who came to challenge Jesus, or just to be entertained.
- ✚ Those who have a heart to seek understanding, will be given more in abundance. [Matthew 7:7, Luke 11:9, 1 Chronicles 28:9, Psalm 14:2, 53:2, Proverbs 2:1-12, 4:5-7]
- ✚ Those who do not have such a heart, will lose any understanding they may have had.
 - ✧ Because, seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.
- ✚ Those who have a heart to understand are blessed because they do.
 - ✧ The things they hear and see are the things that many prophets and righteous men have longed to see and hear, but did not because it was for this specific time. [Matthew 13:16-17]