

Jesus Speaks In Parables

October 17, 2021

Pastor Mark Turner

Mark 4:1-20

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Review:

- Mark has shown us confrontations between Jesus and the other kingdoms
- We have seen many responses to Jesus' ministry... why?

Mark's Dramatic Writing

- Mark again uses 'split-screen' so we can see the key
- Mark shows key in v10-12: secret of the kingdom of God
- The kingdom of God is a mystery

The Unexpected Kingdom

- Christ wasn't immediately revealed as King - babe in manger
- Jesus didn't gather army & conquer -healed sick, demon possessed
- If kingdom was such good news - Jesus would be welcomed
- Religious leaders=said Jesus of the devil
- Crowds marvel at authority of teaching=not ready to believe
- Why the varied responses?

Mark places this parable here to explain the responses

- Jesus' coming was so different than men expected
- Even the disciples were confused^{4:10}
- The parable answers why the Gospel is not embraced

Four Responses to Good News: the seed

- Those who hear & it doesn't take^{4,15}
- Those who respond w/ joy but fall away^{5-6,16-17}
- Those who respond & seem to grow but choke out^{7,18-19}
- Those who grow in good soil^{8,20}
- Why the different results? God is sovereign^{Phil2:12-13}
- Key to Gospel: get over self - trust God's provision^{Rom10:1-4}

Learning from the Parable

- nobody thought the kingdom would be like a sower sowing
- people look for the amazing, sudden radical upheaval
- God's kingdom doesn't come in show or glitz, simply sowing the Word of God^{3,14!}
- We don't need all the techniques or plans or location
- Let us NOT be like Pharisees telling Jesus how He should be
- Let us NOT be like the crowds looking for showy miracles
- Remember the power of the Word of God^{Rom 10:14-17}

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