

THE SEED OF THE KINGDOM

Lk. 8: 9-15 (11)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Nothing Jesus did was pointless. Therefore, there must be good reason for comparing the word of God to seed.
- B. It is interesting to think of all the things to which the word could have been compared: Some great power in nature yet Jesus chose seed, Why?

DISCUSSION:

I. SEED IS POWERFUL

- A. The scope and duration of the kingdom of God requires power, yet the power is to be constructive in nature, rather than a flood, tornado or a bomb.
- B. For power, seeds are hardly excelled anywhere
 - 1. Think of tiny seeds' ability to move clods of dirt hundreds of times their size and weight, to break rocks or concrete!
 - 2. Think of the wonderful increase in size from a small acorn to a spreading live oak, from a tiny seed to a giant sequoia
 - 3. Reflect on the ability of seed to produce economic wealth
 - a. The U. S. spends millions of dollars a day just to store the surplus grain it produces
 - b. The seed of the kingdom produces wealth beyond compare
 - 4. How many men and animals are fed daily by seed or the produce of seed
- C. Seed has the added power of converting what material is available into usable substances.
 - 1. The Gospel is able to convert any sort of man into righteous and useful workers for God.
 - 2. Jesus' Murderers Acts 2; chief sinner 1Tim 1:15
- D. Insignificant and unassuming as it may appear, seed is more powerful than an Atomic Bomb
 - 1. Physical weapons may impose the will of one upon another
 - 2. The word can change the will and character of another, therefore it is the more powerful Heb 4:12; 2Cor 10:4

II. THE URGENCY OF THE WORK

- A. When planting time comes, the seed must be planted or the harvest is lost. The season is brief, the consequences of failure are great. Lights installed in tractors which run around the clock to finish

- B. How like the need to "work while it is day" in the spreading of the gospel. Jhn 9:4
- C. All those converted are expected to help spread the gospel to others Matt 28:20; Heb. 5:12-14
- D. Reaping is in direct proportion to sowing 2Cor 9:6, therefore, as individuals and as churches we cannot afford to spare the seed.

III. RESULT OF THE SOWING

- A. From the beginning God has decreed that seed produce after its kind Gen 1:11,12
- B. The same rule applies to spiritual seed and its produce Gal 6:7,8
 - 1. The good seed produces Christians, nothing else
 - 2. Churches established thereby, are churches of Christ
 - 3. If other results are found, it is certain that other seed has been planted
- C. It is of note, that it is the seed that produces the church and not the church producing the seed. Attempts to modify the word simply makes corrupt seed

IV. THE LIFE IS IN THE SEED Jhn 6:63

- A. Increase is from God, it does not depend primarily upon talent, skill or eloquence of the sower 1Cor 3:7
 - 1. This is not to say we ought not try to learn better how to present the seed
 - 2. Or that we need not use the very best that we have in presenting truth to men 1Cor 9:22
- B. The kind of soil is not necessarily taken into consideration when sowing
 - 1. We must not refrain from sowing even in the most unlikely situations because the seed is powerful Heb 4:12; 2Cor 10:3-5
 - 2. J. Harold Thomas once said: "There are not any hard fields, only uncultivated ones." Hosea 10:12
- C. All Christians must, therefore, sow liberally, sow everywhere and sow in hope.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Non-Christians need to pay attention to this lesson, it clearly shows the power of God to change all lives, freeing them of sin and using them constructively to reach others with the power of the gospel.
- B. Will you receive with meekness the implanted word which is able to save your soul? Jas 1:21