

The Gospel of Mark
Session 12 & 13 - Apr. 24th & May 1st - Chapter 4

4:1-20 Jesus' Response to His Opposition

vv. 1-9 The Parable of the Sower

v.3 Echoes of Deut. 6:4. Note also what the sower (Jesus) does.
Which type of soil receives a more detailed description? Why?
Is the problem with the seed or with the soil?

vv. 10-20 The Explanation of the Parable

v.10 Note the distinction between the Twelve and "those around him".

v.11-12 Why doesn't everyone get to understand the parables? (~= Isaiah)

v.13 Jesus' first rebuke of the _____.

v. 14 Jesus doesn't specify who the sower is. (See Matthew 13:37).

v. 15 Who is really behind the problems understanding the word?

Accordingly, who is actually under the power of Beelzebul?

v.1-17 Note again the centrality and importance of Jesus' _____.

In this parable, Jesus sums up his ministry so far, the reaction he receives, and the reality of it's impact.

Note also: The mystery of God's Reign/Rule in this Age: both soils coexist.

Note also that Jesus' work/Word will produce great fruit!

Parables

Jesus generally tells two basic types: 1. Those about the _____ of God.

2. Those about _____.

The first deals with Jesus' mission, the second with believers' reactions to God's reign.

Common metaphors are used in many of Jesus' "kingdom" parables:

Vinyard =

King =

Harvest =

Marriage =

Birds =

Field =

Other common images, include:

A Man =
Absence/Delay from Journey =
Servants =

Sowing & Seed =
Watching =

Not every element in a parable corresponds to a “real world” element!

Three Teachings & Parables that expand on the Sower Parable

1. The Lamp & The Measuring Stick (Mark 4:21-25)
Focus is upon Jesus' current lack of _____.
2. Automatic Fruit Bearing (Mark 4:26-29) Isa. 55:10-11
Focus is upon the ultimate _____ of God's reign.
3. The Mustard Seed (Mark 4:30-32)
Focus is upon the extent of kingdom's _____.

Jesus Stills the Storm (Mark 4:35-41)