

May 24, 2015

The Seed Is The Word Being Sown

Pastor Charles Mendenhall

A review of arise and the rising to a higher level from the previous teaching was given. "Arise" having two meanings; the first arise means to stand up, usually given by a man, but the second arise is a command given by God, putting first things first and arise to a higher level, doing these things will cause us to live, and as we begin to arise to a higher level, we begin to prioritize our time spent with God, in our prayer life, in our worshiping in our private life and in church, obedience becomes a priority, arise could mean a lot of different things to different people.

There are challenges and oppositions in moving up higher, during the turbulent times that come, we must focus on the Lord and His goodness as the early church did. If we don't know what is going on, we may have a tendency to quit, but we must continue on, staying focused and in the word of God.

In the following scriptures we see the parable of the sower, sowing the word of God. (the sower is also found in Matthew 13 and in Luke 8.) If the parable of the sower is not understood, we will not understand the ways of God or the biblical principles that Jesus is teaching in Mark 4. How does the kingdom of God work? We are in another kingdom being delivered from the kingdom of darkness and put into the kingdom of light. The kingdom of light has different principles causing it work successfully.

An example was given of a kernel of corn, working on a kingdom principle; from a seed, to a stalk, to tassels, leaves, becoming an ear of corn with many kernels producing a large harvest. The bible tells us that the word of God is "the seed of God". Farmers will plant their seed expecting to have a harvest, just as the "seed of God" must be planted in our lives in order to produce a harvest that has been designed for us.

Most people understand the seed principle; the seed was designed to grow. Luke 11 says the seed is the word of God. The word is designed to produce a harvest in our lives, or answered pray, or it might be finances or healing, peace and wisdom. When the seed is planted into the soulish part of us, the mind needs to be renewed, no longer conformed to this world, but transformed and changed.

However, Jesus gives us five basic reasons why the word does not produce a harvest in some of our lives. There are four different types of soil or four different hearts, where the word was planted, the bible says they all heard the same word that it worked for some but not for others even though they are "born again", and not knowing what God wants to do for them. These reasons could be called "blessing blockers". Isaiah 61 tells us to arise from the depression that circumstances have kept us in.

Ecc 12:9 "And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs." KJV

Mark 4:13-20 "And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables? 14 **The sower soweth the word.** 15 And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. 16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; 17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. 18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, 19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. 20 And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred" KJV

v. 17 Offense mentioned here is one of the major reasons that cause the word not to produce. Offense means to stumble and fall away and come to ruin. Jesus taught us to forgive quickly, being quick to forgive, quick to repent and quick to walk in love. We are always sowing to our future. Offense can be toward God, one another, friends, employee, family and others.

v. 18 The thorns or weeds, heard the word, but because of the cares of the world, the things that needed to be done, the worries and stress in their lives, the word was strangled and never allowed to produce in their lives.

All of these different types of soil heard the word, but each responded differently.

The cares of the world we are living in comes from so many different sources and is so deceitful. Care means to be drawn in a different direction, taking us in a way which may seem right, it is assigned to bring us down, keep the word from producing, causing us to worry, ie: "worry wart", choking everything out. The devil doesn't care what he has to use to keep the word out of our hearts.

Mark 4:13-20 "He continued, "Do you see how this story works? All my stories work this way. 14-15 "The farmer plants the Word. Some people are like the seed that falls on the hardened soil of the road. No sooner do they hear the Word than Satan snatches away what has been planted in them. 16-17 "And some are like the seed that lands in the gravel. When they first hear the Word, they respond with great enthusiasm. But there is such shallow soil of character that when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it. 18-19 "The seed cast in the weeds represents the ones who hear the kingdom news but are overwhelmed with worries about all the things they have to do and all the things they want to get. The stress strangles what they heard, and nothing comes of it. 20 "But the seed planted in the good earth represents those who hear the Word, embrace it, and produce a harvest beyond their wildest dreams."MESSAGE

Mark 4:18-19 "The seed cast in the weeds represents the ones who hear the kingdom news but are overwhelmed with worries about all the things they have to do and all the things they want to get. The stress strangles what they heard, and nothing comes of it" MESSAGE

The five reasons are: the enemy stole the word from their heart, no root in their lives, cares, deceitfulness of riches, lusts of other things

The four soils are: the way side, stony ground, thorns, good ground

Three of the four hearts or soils did not produce any fruit.

The seed has great potential but has to be sown. The enemy knows if he can pluck the seed out of our hearts, there is no chance for a harvest. Satan cannot steal the word at will, because it is a choice that we make, we must fight him for it. Refuse to allow him to steal from us, don't allow him to trespass in our lives, use the authority that we have been given in Christ Jesus name to run him off, speak to him. There will be a certain amount of resistance as we proceed on to the top. There is a law in Jesus Christ called the law of faith and as long as we can keep that law of faith working when satan comes around, the law of faith which is a greater law and supersedes satan's plan to steal, kill and destroy.

1 Peter 5:7 " Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." KJV

Cast is a decisive decision. ie: putting a blanket on a horse, something we must do, the horse cannot do it, the same is that Jesus will not take your care or worries from you, He is available, but we have to cast it on Him, from this we will have all His peace that passeth the understanding of our minds. But it is our decision, casting and leaving it there. It is a choice that we must make and we need God's wisdom.

Phil 4:6-7 "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." KJV

Phil 4:6-7 "Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance *and* in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God. 7 And God's peace [shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace] which transcends all understanding shall garrison *and* mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." AMP

Luke 10:39-42 "And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. 40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. 41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: 42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." KJV

Luke 10:39-42 "Martha was pulled away by all she had to do in the kitchen. Later, she stepped in, interrupting them. "Master, don't you care that my sister has abandoned the kitchen to me? Tell her to lend me a hand." The Master said, "Martha, dear Martha, you're fussing far too much and getting yourself worked up over nothing. One thing only is essential, and Mary has chosen it—it's the main course, and won't be taken from her."
MESSAGE

Jesus realized that Martha had cares regarding the situation going on, but He spoke to her about what was the most important thing, the sowing toward her future. Mary had chosen to move to a higher level and wouldn't allow anything to take it away, she chose the word to be planted in her heart.

Mark 4:20 "And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred." KJV

Luke 8:15 "But the seed in the good earth—these are the good-hearts who seize the Word and hold on no matter what, sticking with it until there's a harvest." MESSAGE

The good ground people are those who deal with all the situations that come their way,

everything that the devil had thrown at them.

Mark 4:21-29 "And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? 22 For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was anything kept secret, but that it should come abroad. 23 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. 24 And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. 25 For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath. 26 And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; 27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. 28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. 29 But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come." KJV

Mark 4:11 "And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:" KJV

These verses explain how the seed works and anything that is hidden and we don't understand, is brought to light for us. The wisdom of God is hidden only for a season so that the devil cannot take it. The seed of God has life in it, it is incorruptible; it can't rot or decay. We keep our eyes focused on the goal and every step we take that is ordered by God brings us closer to that goal. The seed planted in our hearts, in good soil brings forth the harvest thirty, sixty or hundred fold. For with God nothing is impossible and no word from God is without power. The word has the power to cause it to come to pass.

Gods plan is that the word sown in us grows up and becomes greater than any adversity any problem or weakness, anything that has tried to hold us back. It produces such a great harvest that overwhelms any problems. Arise and come to a higher level.