

Guarding and Spreading the Precious Seed of God's Word

Mark 4:1-34 (Matthew 13; Luke 8)

Lord's Day – September 24, 2021 – Chas Morse

Mark's Key Verse:

Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Book Outline:

- I. Coming of the Servant
- II. Ministry of the Servant
 - Ministry in Galilee & Surrounding Areas
 - Journey to Jerusalem
 - Ministry in Jerusalem
- III. Self-Sacrifice of the Servant
- IV. Resurrection of the Servant

Mark 1

Mark 1-13

Mark 1-9

Mark 10

Mark 11-13

Mark 14-15

Mark 16

Proposition:

Question: How does our Lord Jesus Christ expect His disciples to conduct themselves as they serve Him in this temporal world?

Answer: Believers are commanded to take the Word of God and proclaim it as commanded in the Great Commission:

Matthew 28:19–20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Implication: Disciples of our Lord who faithfully cast the seeds of God's Word in evangelistic efforts, planting the gospel, should expect to be rewarded by the Almighty for their tenacious efforts.

Key Verses of Chapter 4:

Mark 4:9, 23 "And He was saying, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Passage's Thrust:

- I. The Summary. What is the overall theme statement for Marks's letter to the church?

II. The Standoff. What caused the schism between Jesus and the religious leadership?
Matthew 12-13

III. The Shift. How does this stern resistance to God's Word affect Jesus' teaching style?

IV. The Setting. What is the setting for the narrative in chapter 4?

V. The Seed. How does the seed of God's Word react when it falls on 4 separate soils?

- A. The Hardened Footpath (4, 14-15) _____.
- B. The Stone Slab (6, 16-17) _____.
- C. The Thorny Infested Ground (7, 18,19) _____.
- D. The Good Soil (8, 20) _____.

VI. The Sower. What does God desire of the Sower?

- A. The Parable of the Lamp (21-23) _____.
- B. The Promise of Reward (24-25) _____.
- C. The Parable of the Farmer (26-29) _____.
- D. The Parable of the Mustard Seed (30-32) _____.

Implications:

1) **Enable** the seed of God's Word to saturate your own heart in obedience. (Mark 4:9,23)

2) **Guard** the treasure of God's Word which has been entrusted to you. (2 Tim 1:14; 1 Tim 6:20)

3) **Realize** that as an ambassador of the good news of the gospel, you are nothing more than a "spiritual" seed planter! The Holy Spirit is the only one who can affect legitimate heart changes in the unbelieving heart. (Acts 20:26)

4) **Continue** to love and pray and be available for those who still reject the sown gospel seeds.