

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

THE MUSTARD SEED & LEAVEN (MATTHEW 13:31-33)
OCTOBER 25, 2020

³¹ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." ³³ He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough." Matthew 13:31-33

The Kingdom of God is "like" the process described here – it grows from something small into something large.

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?" Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. 6 Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." Matthew 11:2-6

Jesus' response to discouragement: "Don't judge me too soon, but do judge me on what you see already."

The advance of the Kingdom is not about retaking earthly and spiritual territory only, it's about recapturing human hearts.

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. 2 Peter 3:8-10

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:4-6

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

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