

Next week's Message:

The Parable of the Sower

1 Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. 2 He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: 3 "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."

9 Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

10 When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. 11 He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables 12 so that,

"they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!"[a]"

13 Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? 14 The farmer sows the word. 15 Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. 16 Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. 17 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. 18 Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; 19 but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. 20 Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."



The story of the King... who came to serve.

Part 10:

The Power of Weakness Mark Chapter 3 verses 20-35

Review from last week:

Theory 1 of who Jesus might be:

Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

Theory 2 of who Jesus might be:

22 And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebub! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

3 Reasons Why The Miraculous Jesus Account Is Not A Myth

1. The NT accounts of Jesus life were written while the eyewitnesses were still alive.
2. The content of the NT Gospels are to counter-productive to have been the bi-product of later editing by myth makers.
3. 2000 years ago no one wrote fiction in a way that could be compared to the Bible's style.

C.S. Lewis -Either this is historical reporting or else some unknown ancient writer, without known predecessors or successors suddenly anticipated the technique of modern novelistic, realistic narrative, 2000 years ahead of when it happened. The reader who doesn't see this is simply not learned to read."

Jesus responds to the religious leaders by teaching in parables:

23 So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. 27 In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house.

- A general never wins a war by attacking his own flanks
- Jesus has the audacity to say He's stronger than Satan.

The paradox of Jesus life: Power in Weakness

- Jesus is stronger than the Devil yet at the end of his life he is the One who is bound
- He is the One walking to a cross not a throne
- What we see is the "Divine Judge" receiving unto himself "Divine judgment"
- Ultimate strength is when the LORD of the universe allows himself to be weak, so that he can destroy evil without destroying us.

Paul writes in Romans 12:

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ...17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. 20 On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:14,17,20-21

The point being: The only true way to destroy evil is by being so gracious to the person who did evil to you. That they begin to think.

When you see God had to die for you that gives you **humility**, but when you see God was glad to die for you, that will **strengthen you** so you can let go of your need to get a even

When you seek justice by being willing to forgive first, then you are defeating evil. And that makes you a mighty one too.

The Unpardonable Sin: A warning

28 Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin." 30 He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."

The ministry of the Holy Spirit: Is to not only show you that Jesus isn't in league with the Devil, but rather that He is the unique Son of God who's job is was to defeat an evil that you couldn't.

In other words God says through the Holy Spirit: "I can forgive any sin, but I can't forgive any sin at all if your not willing to see you need forgiveness."

The Family of Jesus: A Promise:

Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother. Mark 3:34,35

Anyone who comes to Me, I will not turn away. Even if your own family has rejected you, I will not.

Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. Psalm 27:10

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" 29 Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." John 6:28,29