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**OCTOBER 2016**  
**THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE (Part Three)**

Greetings elect, holy and beloved of God!

Glory to God, saints! Our Father is always working and that certainly includes Him working through us here at Living Logos Ministries!

Our television show, the Living Word, is picking up steam! I regularly receive phone calls of people who caught us for the first time or have begun to watch our program weekly! They call requesting prayer, materials, or other information. But most of the time, they just simply call to let us know how much the program blessed them! What a blessing it is to know that the Lord is using you to change people's lives!

I do want to let you know that you too can watch any of these programs through our website @ [www.treydickerson.com](http://www.treydickerson.com) anytime you want. Just go to our media tab on our website and you can watch through the YouTube videos that are attached. Also, don't forget that you can subscribe to our YouTube channel and catch all of the videos that we upload in the future as well.

Well, without any further ado, let's get right into the teaching I believe the Lord has for us this month because I have a lot of things on my heart to share with you...

**REVIEW**

Over the past two months, we have been talking about the kingdom principle. That's right- not a kingdom principle or *one of the* kingdom principles- this is the kingdom principle.

Now I understand that this is a strong statement to call this the absolute law of the kingdom, but I can assure you, **just as Jesus is *the Way, the Truth and the Life, the law of sowing & reaping is the way, the truth and the life of the kingdom of God.* Amen!**

Over the past two months, we have validated this by looking at the first of 10 parables that Jesus taught in Mark chapter 4, Matthew chapter 13 & Luke chapter 8- the Parable of the Sower. And we have learned some very important truths from this, the most fundamental law of the kingdom of God.

We learned that just as Jesus described in this parable a sower that went out to sow, we too must be intentional and deliberate in, first, seeing ourselves as sowers and, secondly, as living our lives sowing seed in a purposeful manner. We do this by understanding what the seed is (i.e. the Word of God's kingdom) and selecting specific seed from His Word to sow into our own lives and into the lives of others.

We also learned how to sow this respective seed- by first meditating on these truths until they are planted in our hearts and then speaking those same truths out of our mouths until they change the very circumstances that we desire to see God's kingdom come in. Amen!

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So if you missed either of these first two teachings on this subject, I encourage you to either get a hold of them through downloading them from our website @ [www.treydickerson.com](http://www.treydickerson.com) or by contacting me through the information below so that I can send them directly to you.

Well, this month, I want us to move on in discussing this kingdom principle by looking at another parable that Jesus taught us in Mark chapter 4 (verses 26-29) because I believe it more concisely illustrates to us this kingdom principle than the Parable of the Sower...

### **THE PARABLE OF THE GROWING SEED**

In this, what is traditionally called the Parable of the Growing Seed, Jesus uses a similar example to the Parable of Sower. But this time, the lesson to be learned is not about the condition of the ground; the focus of this parable is how the ground (i.e. the heart) and the seed (i.e. the Word) already have programmed in them what to do when the seed is planted in the ground.

So let's look in depth at this parable and pick out some of the powerful nuggets contained in it...

Verse 26 begins by saying- "And He said..."

Now by using the conjunction "and" here, we should see our need to understand what He had just said before moving on into this parable...

Of course, Jesus had just taught the Parable of the Sower, and then, beginning in verse 23, He says, "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.' Then He said to them, 'Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you, and to you who hear, more will be given. For whoever has, to him more will be given, but whoever does not have, even what has will be taken away from him."

Basically, what Jesus was teaching here is that we need to both take heed to what we are hearing and *how* we are hearing it. Why? Because this is evidently how the seed of God's Word is sown into our hearts and can greatly determine both the quantity and quality of fruit that we produce. Amen!

So we need to be extremely vigilant concerning what we allow to be sown into our hearts because, as Solomon taught us, out of our hearts flow the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23).

Then Jesus went on to say in verse 26- "The kingdom of God is as..." In other words, Jesus was saying, "This is how the kingdom of God operates! This is a law of the kingdom, and it will work this way every single time!"

So let's look at this kingdom principle as illustrated in Jesus' Parable of the Growing Seed and find out how His kingdom works so that we can see it working in our lives! Amen?

### **NO RESPECTOR OF SOWERS**

Again, Jesus says in verse 26- "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground."

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Now notice that He used the word “if” here...

By using the word “if”, Jesus is saying that this principle of the kingdom is conditional. Conditional on what? Conditional as to whether or not this man should scatter seed on the ground!

What this means is that it is not up to God! It is our responsibility *if* this kingdom law will become effective in our lives or not. Amen?

Now I believe this point needs to be made here- but did you know that **if everything that happened in our lives was the will of God, we could have no “if?”** Absolutely! If there is an “if” in a passage of Scripture like this one, then that indicates that there is a part we have to play in seeing God’s will come to pass in our lives. Amen?

Now we know from the previous parable in Mark chapter 4 (the Parable of the Sower) that the seed is the Word of God and the ground is our hearts. So the condition to seeing this kingdom principle becoming effective in our lives is *if* we are going to take the time to sow the Word in hearts that are good, noble and pure (see Luke 8:15).

But I find something very interesting here in Mark chapter 4...

In His interpretation of the Parable of the Sower, Jesus tells us what both the seed and the ground represent, but He never told us who the sower was? And do you know why? **Jesus doesn’t tell us who the sower is in these parables because it does not matter who the sower is!** Amen!

You see, a seed will produce when sown into good ground every single time! It doesn’t matter how the seed got there or who it was that sowed it! The seed is programmed to work no matter whose hands it was scattered through. So, no, who the sower might be is irrelevant.

But I know some people might argue this point, saying, “No, brother, I believe the sower here is the Lord Himself!”

I differ from that interpretation, however, because notice what Jesus went on to say that the sower did next in His Parable of the Growing Seed (verse 27)...

He said, “and should sleep by night and rise by day...”

Do not the Scriptures teach us that God neither slumbers nor sleeps (Psalm 121: 3-4)? Don’t they teach us that there is no night time in the kingdom of heaven (Revelation 22:5)? Therefore, the man in this parable that did the sowing cannot be symbolic of God; it has to be a man since God does not sleep, correct?

But the fact of the matter is, it does not matter who that sower is because the seed and the ground do their thing whether one person sows it or another person sows it.

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Saints, even if it was God who was doing the sowing here, it still would not matter because (Get this now!) **God's Word coming out of our mouth is just as powerful as God's Word coming out of His mouth!** Amen!

How can I make such a bold statement? It's because it is *God's Word* and it is a seed! Therefore, if we just take His Word that He has already spoken and plant it in good ground, it will produce the same results! Amen!

Friends, **the seed and the soil are no respecter of persons or we could say that they are no respecter of "sowers!"** Praise God!

### ENTERING INTO HIS REST

But the point of this parable is that this man (whoever he happens to be) just simply scattered seed on the ground and then went about his business. He didn't stay up all night, wringing his hands, fretting over whether he was going to get a harvest or not. No, Jesus told us that after he scattered the seed on the ground, he just went to bed and rested.

You know, whenever we begin to fret, get anxious and worry about the things that we need or desire to see change in our life, we are not operating according to this kingdom principle. No, when we are abiding in this law of the kingdom, we will enter into His rest.

Friends, this is such a super important part of kingdom living- entering into the Lord's rest! Yet this is so hard on our flesh.

No, I am not talking about "resting" from a natural perspective, but "resting" from a mental, emotional and spiritual perspective.

Do you remember the words of the Master in Matthew chapter 11 when Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you... for My yoke is easy and My burden is light"?

I would venture to say that every one of us has to learn this at some point or another once we become Christians. Why? It is because it is so easy to try to make things happen in the arm of the flesh and lean to our own understanding. When we do this, what this causes is undue stress as opposed to living in the rest that Christ has afforded us.

You see, we cannot bear fruit in God's kingdom by "white-knuckling" it. What I mean by that is that the fruit that comes according to this kingdom principle will not be produced by the will of man or the will of the flesh (see John 1:13). No, **the transformation of life in God's kingdom only comes by resting in the work of another- namely, the Grace of God Himself, the Lord Jesus Christ!** Amen!

So with this said- Does this mean we can just kick back and relax and let God do everything? Does it mean that we have no part to play? Of course not, or else every born again believer would be bearing a bunch of fruit, right?

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So what part do we have to play? It is found in these kingdom parables found in Mark chapter 4- just sow the Word! Our only job is to sow the Word into our situation and sit back and watch God be God! Hallelujah!

Jesus was telling us here that His Word already has programmed in it to produce what it was sent to perform (Isaiah 55:11) and the good and noble heart that is not full of the weeds, thorns and rocks of this world will germinate the seed. All we have to do is spend time meditating on His Word till it becomes planted in our hearts and then just rest from trying to force fruit in our lives! Amen!

The Word is the source of our fruit, not us. This is why Jesus went on to say in this parable- “and the seed should sprout and grow...” Amen!

It's the seed that does the sprouting and growing all on its own, without any of the sower's help! He can just kick back and rest knowing the seed is working behind the scenes! Thank you Lord!

Now that leads me to what I consider to be the most significant phrase in this parable...

### **UNEXPLAINABLE GRACE!**

Notice what Jesus said in the rest of verse 27... “he himself does not know how.”

I believe this is the most powerful statement in this parable and I also believe that it is the point Jesus was trying to convey...

Again, this sower simply planted the seed in good ground and then there was nothing else he could do to help the process! He could just rest! Then, after the process of time, the seed began to sprout and grow and he couldn't even explain how it happened.

You see, this is the only way God will allow you to grow spiritually. He is not going to let you try and force fruit in your life. Actually, if you try to force fruit, the Bible teaches us He will actually oppose you (see Proverbs 4:6)! Why? Because He wants all the glory! He does not want you to be able to take credit for your growth. He wants you to be like this sower who would have had to say if asked about the harvest he had in his field- “You know what? All I did was put the seed in the ground. I couldn't tell you how those little seeds produced all this. It just happened on its own. I can't figure it out. I don't know how this happened!” Thank you Lord!

You see, in verse 28 Jesus goes on to say, “For the earth yields crops by itself...”

Here, Jesus reiterates that the earth produces by itself...not with any help from the owner of the ground. The crop just comes forth independent from his help.

Friends, the earth- being the heart of man- will produce whatever you sow into it. As Proverbs 23:7 says, “As a man thinks in his heart, so is he.” Never forget this one thing: **you will become in your actions whatever you have allowed yourself to become in your heart.** Therefore, when you meditate on the Word of God and allow those seeds to be planted in your heart you will

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eventually produce the fruit of the Word. You become transformed by the renewing of your mind (see Romans 12:2).

Finally, notice that Jesus gives us the steps that this harvest takes place in the remaining part of verse 28... He says, "first the blade, then the head, and after that the full grain in the head."

What this is speaking of is patience!

Most believers, when they get a hold of this principle, will begin to read and meditate the Word and then when they don't see any results in a month (for instance) they quit and say it doesn't work. Well, how ridiculous would it be for a farmer to plant some seed and then after a week or two, when it hasn't produced, dig up the seed and say this farming stuff doesn't work? That would be ridiculous, right?

No, **reaping a harvest is a process!** Eventually, we will start seeing some results as we abide by this kingdom principle, but don't expect the full harvest to come quickly. We have to go through stages one and two first (i.e. "first the blade, then the head")! And then, don't quit- knowing that the full grain in the head is coming in due season if we faint not!

This is why Jesus said in His Parable of the Sower, that the good ground- the one that produced some thirty, some sixty, and some a hundredfold- bore fruit with patience (see Luke 8:15). There will be an element of patience involved in whatever God gives increase in. Although there are certainly the "immediately's" and the "suddenly's" in God's kingdom, this is not how the fruit that endures is generally produced. **In God's kingdom, abiding fruit is produced through patience.** Amen!

But this abiding fruit comes when God's Word is sown into our hearts, and as we allow God's Word to spring up in our hearts, then we will begin to see the production of it in our lives.

So when it comes to us to seeing the fruit of God's kingdom coming in our lives, sow the Word! When it comes to situations and circumstances in our lives that we know need to change, sow the Word! Find Scriptures that promise what we want to see and begin to let God perform His good Word and let it prosper in the thing for which He sent it (Isaiah 55:11)!

It works every time, my friends! It is a law! It is the kingdom principle! Amen!

Victoriously,

