

The Seed Growing Secretly (Mark 4:26-29)

This parable is unique to Mark's gospel & is not in the other synoptics

There is a close connection between: parable of the sower and this one

.. human responsibility: seed can't sprout, grow, without good soil

Gospel bears fruit when the heart responds to it favorably

!. God's sovereignty: only God causes the seed to grow: present parable

I. The Growth of the Seed is a Mystery to Man (4:26,27)

Jesus is again explaining the "Kingdom of God" its growth is mysterious

Farmer scattered seed, entrusting it to the soil, he then rests for the night

He sleeps & wakes up, toils & labors, but cannot cause the seed to grow.

Only the one who created the seed can activate & cause the seed to grow

This is the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit: 1 Cor 3:6 & John 3: 8

II. The seed is a Picture of Gospel Power or Potency (4:28)

- By "itself" means automatically, without visible cause and human help
- Seed been buried /entrusted to the "earth" at first its growth is hidden
- After some time, the farmer is amazed, he looks and sees green sprouts
- What power is hidden in that small seed: kingdom & reign of God