

## The Sowing of the Seed of the Kingdom

**“So is the kingdom of God: as if a man cast seed on the earth.” Mark 4:26**

If you were going to establish a kingdom—a realm where you could do whatever you wanted—how would you establish it? Most of us might take a lesson from history, remembering how the Roman Empire or Alexander the Great conquered vast territories by exercising a sharp mind and military might. God, however, takes a very different way altogether in establishing His kingdom: “So is the kingdom of God: as if a man cast seed on the earth” (Mark 4:26). The mysterious and profound kingdom of God is brought in through such seemingly ordinary means—a man casting seed on the earth!

For the kingdom of God to be brought to the earth, the first step was for God Himself to come to the earth as a man. Matthew 13:37 tells us that “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.” This man casting seed on the earth is God incarnate—the Lord Jesus Christ. God was embodied in the man Jesus, and this Jesus went forth to sow the seed of

God’s kingdom by speaking the word of God (Mark 4:14).

The Lord Jesus was both the Sower and the seed sown. As the Sower, the Lord sowed Himself as the seed of life through His word. Just as a seed is a container of life, the words that this God-man spoke embodied God as life. To belong to a certain kingdom is a matter of having a certain life. For example, if we do not have the animal life, we can never enter the animal kingdom. Thus the way in which one enters the kingdom of God is not by good works or outward conduct; rather, it is by **regeneration**—receiving the life of God. When Christ, as the seed of life, comes into a person, he is regenerated. By regeneration, he is born into the kingdom of God (John 3:5).

Now what is the earth onto which the seed is cast? The earth is the heart of man (Matt. 13:19). In order for this human earth to receive the seed of life, it must be in a proper condition. At the beginning of the New Testament, John the Baptist proclaimed, “Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near” (Matt. 3:2). He also said, “Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight His paths” (Matt. 3:3b). To prepare the way of the Lord and make His paths straight is to

change our mind, to turn our mind toward the Lord and make our heart right, that through repentance every part and avenue of our heart may be straightened by the Lord for the kingdom of the heavens. Through repentance we turn to God from everything else and open our heart to receive Him as the wonderful kingdom seed.

Once we receive the seed of the kingdom, we also become sowers. In the beginning of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus is the unique Sower. But at the end of the gospel of Mark, many sowers had been produced: “They went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them . . .” (Mark 16:20a). Christ came as the Sower to sow Himself as the seed of life in His word into men’s hearts so that He might grow and live in them and be expressed from within them. May we be empty in spirit and pure in heart so that the Lord as the seed of the kingdom may enter into us and grow within us. And may we also give ourselves to sow Christ as the seed of life wherever we go. This is how the kingdom of God is established.

## Matthew 7:21

**Not every one who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will <sup>1</sup>enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but he who does the will of My Father who is in the heavens.**

*Note 1 - To enter into the kingdom of the heavens, we need to do two things: call on the Lord and do the will of the heavenly Father. To call on the Lord suffices for us to be saved ([Rom. 10:13](#)), but to enter into the kingdom of the heavens, we also need to do the will of the heavenly Father. Hence, not everyone who says, "Lord, Lord," will enter into the kingdom of the heavens; but those who call on the Lord and do the will of the heavenly Father will enter in.*

*Since entering into the kingdom of the heavens requires doing the will of the heavenly Father, it is clearly different from entering into the kingdom of God through regeneration ([John 3:3, 5](#)). The latter entrance is gained through being born of the divine life; the former, through the living of that life.*

Prayer: Lord Jesus, may I be emptied in my spirit and pure in my heart, so that You as the seed of the kingdom may enter into me and grow within me. And I also give myself to sow Christ as the seed of life wherever I go, that the kingdom of God be established on earth to bring You back. Come Lord Jesus, Amen.

# The Gospel of the Kingdom (2)

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Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.