

**Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"**  
**"Growth"**  
**Luke 13:18-21**  
**Study-59**

**Verses 18-21 Growth Of The Kingdom:** The parallel passages are recorded in **Matthew 13:31-33; Mark 4:30-32**

Jesus **warns** His **disciples (Us)** in these two parables about Satan's desire to destroy God's work!

**The Bible Warns Us About Satanic Opposition: 1 Peter 5:8**

**The Bible Warns Us About The Devils Schemes: 2 Corinthians 2:11**

**The Bible Warns Us About Counterfeit Representatives: 2 Corinthians 11:13-15**

**Luke 9:51-19:27 The Rejection Of The Son Of Man:**

**Luke 13 "The Kingdom of God" (Synopsis of the Kingdom)**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "In The Last Days, God's Kingdom Will See Both Growth And Error All At The Same Time."

**1. Verses 18-19 External Growth**

**2. Verses 20-21 Internal Growth**

**1. Verses 18-19 External Growth:**

**Luke 13:18 So**

**(So What) Context** – Luke recorded the rejection of Jesus (the Kingdom of God by the religious) **Luke 13-10-17 Luke 13:14**

**Luke 13:17 As He said this, all His opponents were being humiliated;**

**So He was saying,** Jesus now gives two parables in response to His rejection. These parables deal with the type of reception to the Kingdom of God

**kingdom of God** His kingdom, present tense being now, is Jesus living in us, and it is in the future that He will set up His kingdom on earth **Revelation 19:11-21**

**"Parable"**- made up of two words **Para** – "*alongside*" **Ballo** – "*to throw or cast*"

**Parable** – "*to cast alongside*" Parables were used alongside teachings

**With all the rejection of God's Kingdom, will it grow?**

**Jesus, in response, gives two parables (Kingdom of God) (Three Views)**

**1. The two parables teach the visible, outward growth of the kingdom, which will take over the world**

**2. Some say "NO!", It is teaching about the large growth of the church**

**3. The growth described is not a normal growth but an abnormal growth:**

**Matthew 24:9; 2 Timothy 3:13**

**Luke 13** Jesus is facing opposition.

**Parable of The Mustard Seed (External Growth)**

**Luke 13:19** "It is like a mustard seed,

This phrase was used by the Jews as a proverbial saying. Jesus used it **five times** in the Gospels. **Luke 17:6; Mark 4:31**

**small seed – Luke 12:32** "little flock" "Small as a mustard seed,"

We say something is "as small as a flea."

**Zechariah 4:10** "For who has despised the day of small things?

**which a man took and threw into his own garden; and it grew and became a tree;** a mustard seed is a garden herb that is a bush that grows to about four feet.

**Scripture never uses a symbol in two conflicting ways; it uses them consistently throughout.**

Those that heard this would have known that something is abnormal

**mustard seed** - has the quality of *"pungency, it is biting, irritating, disturbing."*

**The Message of the Kingdom of Heaven –** *"Like a mustard seed is intended to be arousing, irritating, and disturbing, among men."*

**becomes a tree,** in Scripture *"for authority and power and dominion"* a great world kingdom (**Ezekiel 17:22-24; 31:3-9; Daniel 4:20-22**)

**What would unnatural growth be?**

*It would be loftiness, pride, ambition, domination of others, concern for self.*

**and THE BIRDS** - the bird is Satan and his demons. **Mark 4:15**

**Ezekiel 17:23** describes birds as people from all the nations coming.

**We see these unclean birds in the system called Babylon. Revelation 18:2**

**The Parable teaches the Kingdom of God would have a small beginning.**

**Feebleness like the mustard seed.**

**Greatness Of Growth: (Abnormal growth) NESTED IN ITS BRANCHES."**

Of all the plants, it becomes the greatest in size.

**Lesson From The Mustard Seed – "This Small Seed Becomes A Large Plant, So God's Kingdom Will Grow And Include All Nations"**

**This Large Structure of the Church:**

**In The Last Days, The Church Will Be Characterized By Six Worldly Traits:**

- 1. Characterized By The World's Wisdom**
- 2. Characterized By The World's Theology**
- 3. Characterized By The World's Agenda**
- 4. Characterized By The World's Method's**
- 5. Characterized By The World's Terminology**
- 6. Characterized By The World's Comfort**

**The mustard seed illustrates the false outward expansion of the kingdom:**

## **2. Verses 20-21 Internal Growth:**

**The Parable of The Leaven: (Internal Growth)**

**Luke 13:21 "It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour until it was all leavened."**

**"It is like Leaven – Is used 98 times (It is always in a bad sense)**

Leaven is used in Scripture as a picture of sin, evil, or corruption.

*It is the yeast that enters and takes over the whole lump of dough.*

**Feast of Unleavened Bread – (Exodus 12:14-22) Matthew 16:6;  
1 Corinthians 5:6-8**

**Yeast** - *sometimes just means yeast, but when it is used as a symbol, its meaning is always that evil rather than something good.*

**which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour,  
(50 pounds would feed 150 people)**

**flour** – represents what is good. The meal was made from the wheat, not the tares.

**until it was all leavened."** What happens is the professing church *"is permeated by evil doctrine, externalism, unbelief, worldliness,"* which tends to inflate the church and make it larger in appearance. **1 Timothy 4:1**

**until it was all leavened."** The yeast took over and caused the whole lump of dough to rise. **Matthew 16:12**

**Large Inflated Dough Of Legalism  
The Leaven of Materialism  
The Leaven of Immorality**

**Application:**

- 1.** The Last Days Will Be Marked By An Increase Of Corruption And By Professors Of Faith, Not Possessors Of Faith.
- 2.** Don't Judge By Appearance. Is It The World's Wisdom? World's Theology? World's Agenda? World's Method's? World's Terminology? And The World's Comfort? The Mustard Seed Illustrates The False Outward Expansion Of The Kingdom.
- 3.** Parable Of The Leaven Reveals Internal Growth. The Church Should Grow And Reflect Jesus Christ In Holiness, Not The World. **1 Peter 1:16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."**