

Where do you find yourself in this parable? He gave this illustration to help people determine what kind of soil they represent and then to decide what kind of soil they will be. They are to faithfully cast the gospel message. As they do, they can expect the responses they receive to fall into one of these categories. Some will reject outright, due to hard-heartedness. Others will demonstrate a superficial interest, only to fall away when hardship comes. Still others will profess a love for Christ while simultaneously nurturing a deadly affection for the world. Finally, there will be some who genuinely receive the gospel. They will humbly turn from their sins and wholeheartedly embrace the Lord Jesus as their Savior and King. The genuineness of their profession will be demonstrated by the abundant fruit of their transformed lives, as they walk in obedience and faith.

TAKEAWAY

SERMON SERIES: GOSPEL OF MARK



Pastor Harry Jones

Sunday, September 1, 2024

Key memory verse: Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many”

Discussion Questions—Mark 4:8-9, 20

1. What happened to the sower’s seed when it landed on the good ground (verse 8) ?
2. According to Jesus’ Word in Mark 4:9, who needs to listen to His word?
3. Which soil best describes your heart?
4. Are you bearing fruits?

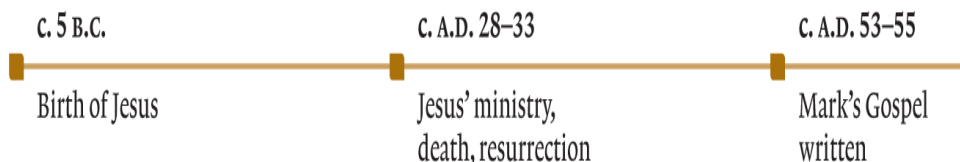
Week 18: The Parable Of The Sower (Mark 4:1-20)

Week 19: The Enemies Of The Word (Mark 4:3-4)

Week 20: Falling Away From The Word (Mark 4:5-6)

Week 21: The Divided Heart (Mark 4:7, 18-19)

Week 22: *The Good Soil* (Mark 4:8-9, 20)



Outline

The Presentation of the servant	The servant’s ministry in Galilee	The servant’s journey to Jerusalem	The servant’s ministry in Jerusalem
Mark 1:1-13	Mark 1:14-9:50	Mark 10	Mark 11-16

ANSWERS: (1) good; (2) accepting, transformed

Sermon Notes

AUTHOR, DATE, AND RECIPIENTS

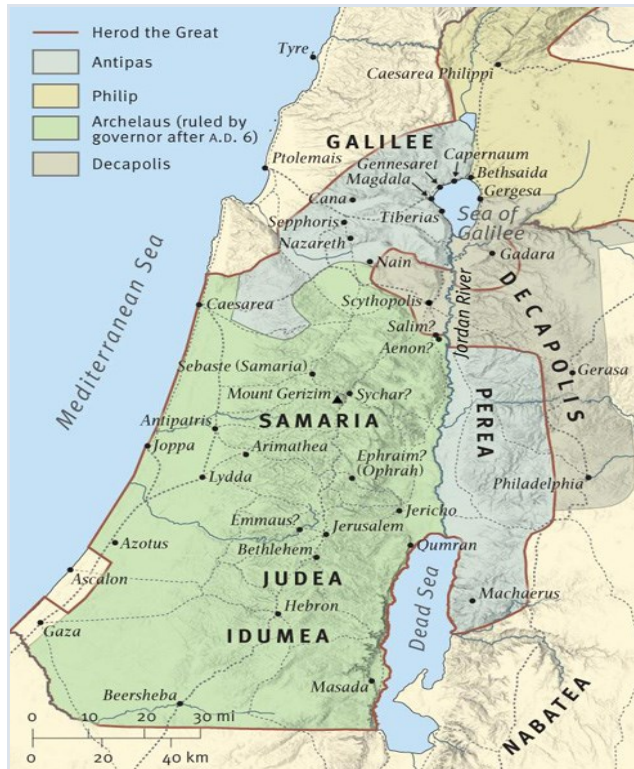
The apostle Peter passed on reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant, John Mark, who wrote this Gospel for the wider church as the record of Peter's apostolic testimony. The book was likely written from Rome during the mid- to late-50s A.D. (though the mid- or late-60s is also possible). Mark's audience, largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs, needed to become familiar with such customs in order to understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God's work with Israel and the entire world, so Mark explains them.

PURPOSE AND THEME

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship. Mark returns often to this theme, categorizing his main audience as either followers or opponents of Jesus. Mark presents and supports this call to discipleship by narrating the identity and teaching of Jesus. For Mark, discipleship is essentially a relationship with Jesus, not merely following a certain code of conduct. Fellowship with Jesus marks the heart of the disciple's life, and this fellowship includes trusting Jesus, confessing him, observing his conduct, following his teaching, and being shaped by a relationship with him. Discipleship also means being prepared to face the kind of rejection that Jesus faced.

THE SETTING OF MARK

The events in the book of Mark take place almost entirely within Palestine, from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Beersheba in the south. During this time Palestine was ruled by the Roman Empire. The book opens with Jesus' baptism by John during the rule of Pontius Pilate and the tetrarchs Antipas and Philip. It closes with Jesus' death and resurrection about three years later.



1. When the “_____” ground person hears the Word of God it impacts how they live, how they think, and how they feel.
2. The good ground person is “_____” the Word of God. They are embracing it, receiving it, believing it, agreeing with it, and applying it. They don't just hear the word, they are _____ by it.