The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Mark 4:30-34 (series #20)

Introduction: the mystery form of the kingdom

- 1) It is a spiritual kingdom of believers Col. 1:13
- 2) There are various responses to its message Mark 4:3-9, 14-20
- 3) It its present, earthly form it has unbelievers Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

I. The Parable vv. 30-32

- A. The mustard seed was the smallest seed planted in ancient Palestine
- B. It could grow into a bush or "tree" of 15 ft.

II. The Meaning

- A. The kingdom began small in a manger
- B. It has grown immensely
- C. It even includes non Jews Eph. 2:11-18
 - 1. We were "without"
 - a. Christ
 - b. Citizenship
 - c. Covenants of promise
 - d. Hope
 - e. God
 - 2. But now have been brought near

III. The Setting vv. 33-34

Conclusion: Are you in the kingdom?