

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for February 23, 1986**

**The Parable of the Mustard Seed**  
**Matthew 13:31-32**  
**Dale Whitehead**

Introduction:

The seven parables of **Matthew 13** are describing that period of time between Christ's first coming and His second coming. The first parable was the "Parable of the Sower and Soils." The second was the "Parable of the Wheat and the Tares." This morning we will be concerned with the third parable, which we will call the "Parable of the Mustard Seed."

This parable describes for us the large size the kingdom would obtain, though it began from a small beginning.

Body:

1. The description of the parable.

A. The mustard seed:

God is responsible for the numerical growth of the church. It is our responsibility to plant seed, to make disciples and teach them.

The "mustard seed" is not the smallest of seeds but of seeds of "garden plants." Jesus was referring to a specific group of plants, "garden plants," also to the same group of seed.

B. The mustard tree:

Is a 10–15 foot tall garden plant. From the smallest beginning the largest plant develops.

2. The interpretation of the Parable of the Mustard Seed.

A. The mustard seed:

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To share the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. To obey.

B. The mustard tree:

The harvest of disciples, Christ's church is the largest religious organization in the world. Certainly a percentage is fluff (the tares) but that still leaves millions and millions that have been reaped from the 120 disciples in Jerusalem.

Note: The Birds

Birds are just birds.