

Sunday, June 5, 2011—Mark Dispensationally Considered—Mark 4:21-29: This Little Light of Mine

Mark 4:21-25

- *And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? 22) For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad. 23) If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. 24) And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. 25) For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.*
- Mark 4:21—is comprise of two questions but of which are somewhat rhetorical in nature.
- Matthew 5:14-16—Jesus tells his followers listening to the Sermon on the Mount that they are the light of the world. They were not supposed to hid their light under a bushel but display it on a candlestick so that their might shine before men.
- Mark 4:22—when you shine a light into darkness it illuminates and reveals what is in the darkness. Please recall that the reason Christ is now speaking in parables is to reveal the mysteries of the kingdom of God to whom it was given to understand them.
 - Mark 4:11-12
- Through the parables Christ is sharing information about the true nature of the Kingdom of God that only the Little Flock will understand. This appears to be clear because in verse 23 he calls any man with ears to hear what he is saying. Once again, according to Mark 4:11-12 who is going to truly hear what Christ is saying? Not those that are without but the Little Flock or believing Israel.
- Mark 4:24-25—a warning is issued regarding how they hear what Christ is saying. They will receive according to the measure with which they take heed or hear.
 - Luke 8:18
- Luke 11:33-36
- The contrast of light with darkness is used in many places to illustrate dispensational truths.
- John 8:12—Jesus says “I am the light of the world”
- John 9:4-5—As long as Christ is in the world it is day time.
- I Thessalonians 5:1-9—we are children of the light and children of the day.

- Malachi 4:2—refers to the second coming of Christ as the rising of the Sun. Why? Because the light of the world is returning to the world.

Mark 4:26-29

- ***“And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; 27) And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. 28) For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. 29) But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.”***
- Mark is the only gospel writer to include these verses in his narrative.
- What we learn from these verses is that the kingdom of God is like the normal process of sowing, bearing fruit, and harvesting.
- Mark 4:26—the seed is cast into the ground.
- Mark 4:27—after many days and night the seed springs up.
- Mark 4:28—after the seed springs up it goes through a maturation process: blade, ear, full corn in the ear.
- Mark 4:29—after reaching maturing the fruit is harvested.
- Matthew 3:9-12—speaks of God purging his threshing floor to separate out the wheat from the chaff.
- Matthew 13:24-30—the parable of the wheat and the tares.
- Matthew 13:36-43—the parable of the wheat and the tares explained
- Revelation 14:14-20—depicts what the parable of the wheat and the tares was discussing.
- I John 1:5-7, 2:9-11—describes the differences between believing and unbelieving Israel.