

Three Seals of Flour

- Matthew 13 & Genesis 18

INTRODUCTION

God causes His people to rise up, to be filled with His presence, wisdom, and understanding. Like a mustard seed can grow into a large tree, the Kingdom of God, in its glory, properly lived out by His people, can transform the world.

DISCUSSION

How does God change people?
How have you seen God permeate and rise within someone to change them completely?

EXPLANATION

Have you allowed God's presence to work itself through you?
How have you experienced God working Himself through you?
When was the last time you saw God work through someone else?
What happened?

APPLICATION

How is God's presence leading you from fear into Joy?

How is God's presence in you making that Joy known by how you live?

How is that Joy changing the lives, for the better, of those around you?

How are you bringing heaven to earth and expanding the kingdom of our great, glorious, triune God?

Scripture Verses:

Hebrews 13:1-2
 Matthew 13:31-33
 Matthew 16:6
 Luke 8:15
 Luke 12:1
 1 Corinthians 5:6
 Galatians 5:9
 Genesis 1:26
 Proverbs 3:19-20
 Genesis 18:1-6



{ Missing } WORDS

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WEEK 3 Notes



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Hebrews 13:1-2 *“Keep on loving each other as brothers. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it”*

Matthew is the most Jewish of all the gospel accounts. He is trying to show that Jesus is the promised Messiah. Throughout the Old Testament scriptures God has promised redemption through a “son of David,” a second Moses (Deut 18:18). Matthew is trying to show the reader that JESUS is that person. We find most if the “missing word” statements in Matthew.

In Matthew 13 Jesus is speaking in parables to the crowd and starts by telling them a parable about soil. Eventually Jesus gets to **Matthew 13:31** *He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches.”*

Jesus is making the connection between the small beginnings taking place under his ministry and the kingdom in its future glory (today it is worldwide, moving forward, and, when done right, brings hope and help the world over). **THE TINY SEED LEADS TO THE MATURE PLANT.** In the same way our lives are to continually look to the Kingdom now and the legacy WE will leave in its name.

V33 He told them still another parable “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Where a mustard seed suggests extensive growth **THE YEAST SHOWS INTENSIVE TRANSFORMATION.** The yeast doesn’t grow, it permeates; and its inevitable effect, despite the small quantity used, causes the dough to rise: as God permeates us as his people and THAT should cause our level of transformation to rise.

The words **a large amount of flour** - literally translates as 3 Seahs of flour. Jesus saying this would directly refer His listeners to God coming to speak to Abraham and Sarah...and an extravagant meal that was prepared.

Genesis 18

Many scholars will point to these verses as the beginning of the understanding of the Trinity.

One Triune God, our God. God has been trying for 25 years to help Abraham to GET IT, to understand what he is called to. God has been speaking to Him, revealing Himself to Him (while still veiling his glory so he doesn’t torch him)...and finally one day **Genesis 18: 1-6** *The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.*

He said, “If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way--now that you have come to your servant.”

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.”

So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of fine flour and knead it and bake some bread.”

1 year from this moment Abraham has his promised son. Jesus; “missing words” point to Abraham and Sarah’s feast because here, leaven is used for the best of all purposes — in preparing an extravagant meal to be shared with God in full understanding of relationship with Him.

When Jesus referred to this passage, his audience (especially the women) would have smiled as they visualized Sarah’s leaven causing such an enormous batch of dough to rise. And then they connect it to the Kingdom of God which causes His people to rise up, be filled with His presence... and like a mustard seed into a large tree... the Kingdom of God in its glory properly lived out by His people.

