

Mark 4:1-20
“Taking Root”
04 - 01 - 07

The Argument:

What is the significance of Mark telling us in v. 1 that “Again Jesus began to teach by the lake?” (cf. 1:16-17; 2:13-14)

What is wrong with our “usual” reading of this parable?

In the end, this really isn’t so much a parable about soils as it is

_____!

The Proof:

What is the significance of the *shema* (Deuteronomy 6:4) in relation to this passage?

How many times is the verb for hearing/listening used in Mark 4?

In Jesus’ ministry, parables are not designed to conceal but to

_____ (Mark 1:14-15; 4:21-23)

What exactly are parables supposed to reveal?

How does this fit with Jesus quoting from Isaiah 6:9-10?

How many times in the NT is this Isaiah quote actually used?
What does that tell us?

Explain the relationship between this passage and Psalm 115:2-8 and Psalm 135:15-18.

The Application:

Why does a proper *hearing* of this parable still matter?

1) Discipleship—we too are becoming sowers

2) Replication—becoming like our God or gods

3) Results—this Gospel was designed to be active