

## The Mustard Seed (Matt. 13:31-32)

2/1/2015

### Introduction

Jesus is still speaking to the \_\_\_\_\_.

Presented is the same word for a teacher \_\_\_\_\_ the instruction before his students.

The parable of the mustard seed fits within the confines of the parable of the \_\_\_\_\_.

### The Mustard Seed: Small Start, Great Growth

Notes on mustard seeds:

The man who owns the field is God the \_\_\_\_\_.

A field usually refers to land that has been \_\_\_\_\_.

Notes on the man *taking* a seed and *sowing* it:

The main point of the parable is to illustrate one particular \_\_\_\_\_ of the growth of God's kingdom.

Full grown =

The kingdom of heaven, though very \_\_\_\_\_ at the time Jesus presented the parable, would one day grow into a large \_\_\_\_\_ of believers.

## The Main Point: Birds in the Branches

Two convincing elements help us determine the meaning:

1. The immediate \_\_\_\_\_.  
Its placement suggests it is \_\_\_\_\_ on the theme of the tares.  
The question is: Since the images that represent unbelievers do \_\_\_\_\_ in the parables before and after this one, in what way do \_\_\_\_\_ nesting in the branches damage the kingdom of God?
2. The context of the \_\_\_\_\_ quote.

Things we learn from the Scripture passages Jesus quoted:

[Psalm 104](#)

[Ezekiel 17](#)

[Ezekiel 31](#)

[Daniel 4](#)

The birds of the air making their nests in the branches of the church are those who \_\_\_\_\_ use the church for their own \_\_\_\_\_.

Examples of this truth through the ages:

*“The devil’s work is to undermine the church by the infusion of sin. These parables show the growth of evil, and are prophecies extending over the entire age in which we live.” – Arno Gaebelin*