

## Mustard Seed & The Leavened Meal

*Matthew 13:31-33*

*May 22, 2022*

There are some pitfalls to \_\_\_\_\_ when considering the parables of this chapter. One is that of \_\_\_\_\_, and the other is that of the misinterpretation of \_\_\_\_\_. Popularity is not any guarantee of \_\_\_\_\_. (The acceptance of popular interpretation of Scripture led to the crucifixion of Jesus.) History viewed from a theological \_\_\_\_\_ can also move us away from the correct interpretation.

General \_\_\_\_\_ of interpretation must be recognized:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the teaching of Jesus throughout these parables.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord's figures of speech. He never used one in two \_\_\_\_\_ senses.
3. The period of \_\_\_\_\_ about which Jesus is speaking.

### A. The Mustard Seed

1. The smallest of seeds which \_\_\_\_\_ until it became a tree.
  - a. The mustard is an \_\_\_\_\_, not a tree.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ is emphasized.
2. Unnatural \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. A \_\_\_\_\_ place for the birds of the air – birds are symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. It is not intended to teach the progress and \_\_\_\_\_ of the kingdom to worldly \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the spiritual: loftiness, \_\_\_\_\_, dominance
  - d. Constantine is a clear illustration of the \_\_\_\_\_ growth in the promotion of Christianity
3. Natural spiritual growth was Jesus' emphasis: \_\_\_\_\_, meekness, service.

### B. The Leavened Meal

1. Two \_\_\_\_\_ of interpretation
  - a. Out of context – viewed \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. In context – viewed with the \_\_\_\_\_ in the chapter
2. Incorrect view
  - a. The meal is the world, needing something \_\_\_\_\_ added.
  - b. The leaven is the gospel that must be \_\_\_\_\_ to bring about change.
  - c. The woman is the person who \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel in the hearts of men.
  - d. The result is the whole is leavened ( \_\_\_\_\_ with the Spirit of Christ)
  - e. Problems:
    - (1). Everywhere else, meal is good and leaven is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (2). Meal is favorable to leaven, whereas the world is always \_\_\_\_\_ to the spiritual.
    - (3). Hiding suggests \_\_\_\_\_ and craftiness.
    - (4). The manner in which leaven works is more suggestive of \_\_\_\_\_ than grace. It \_\_\_\_\_ with the meal.
    - (5). The purpose of leaven is to make the \_\_\_\_\_ more palatable with man, whereas the purpose of the gospel is to make men \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
3. Correct view
  - a. The whole picture must be considered – leaven hidden by a woman in three measures of meal
  - b. Leaven – symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. The woman – symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_ teachers who are acknowledged as good and holy, but hide false \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. The result – the whole is leavened (corrupted, \_\_\_\_\_, and unfit for the Master's service)

