The Growth of the Kingdom
Luke 13:10-21

Introduction

The growth of the kingdom. It is an amazing and wonderful thing to see.

How does the kingdom grow?

How can we join with God in what he is doing in the world?

I. The kingdom of God will grow despite human opposition. Verses 10-17

The healing of the crippled woman is called a mirror miracle.

Why is this a mirror miracle?


Months have passed. Has anything changed?

- The people were amazed.
- The leaders were furious. There was no change in their heart.

Jesus rebukes the ruler and all who think like him. You care more about your livestock than people. How much more should you care for a person!

There’s never a limit to doing good.

II. The kingdom of God will grow despite spiritual opposition. Verses 10-17

This woman had been crippled by a spirit for 18 years.

It doesn’t appear to be demonic possession. There is no exorcism by Jesus – just healing with a word and the laying on of hands.

But there is a connection between the physical, emotional, and spiritual parts of our life.

Jesus’ point to the synagogue ruler is that the Sabbath is a great day for her to be healed.

The Sabbath is:

- A day for worship.
- A day for rest from our labor.
- A day to celebrate God’s triumph over sin and Satan.
“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code with its regulations, that was against us and stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Colossians 2:13-15

We are in a spiritual battle.

The devil wants us to be consumed with his presence and power or conclude that he isn’t there.

Don’t be afraid. “Greater is he who is in you, than he who is in the world.” I John 4:4

III. The kingdom of God will grow to fill the whole earth. Verses 18-21

It doesn’t mean that everyone will become a Christian.

It means the gospel will be preached in every nation.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14

Jesus gives two examples of how the kingdom grows.

- The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed.
- The kingdom of God is like yeast mixed into dough.

One is visible, the other invisible. Yet from such small and insignificant beginnings can come great things.

So, it is with the kingdom – slowly, steadily, sometimes visible, at other times invisible, the kingdom of God grows.

Trust me! Jesus said, “I will build my church and the gates of hades will not overcome it.” Matthew 16:18

Who but God can do that?

When we join with God in his work, he gets the glory, the kingdom grows, and we are blessed.

Conclusion

The kingdom of God will grow until the day our Lord returns.

It will overcome all human opposition.

It will overcome all spiritual opposition.

It will grow by the power of God.

How will you join in the work?