



MULTIPLYING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Study Notes by Thomas Hale

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“THE SELF-FULFILLING WORD OF GOD”

11 For as [surely as] the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring forth, so [surely] the Lord God will cause rightness and justice and praise to spring forth before all the nations [through the self-fulfilling power of His word]. The Amplified Bible. The Lockman Foundation, 1987, p. Is 61:11.

1. The statement “through the self-fulfilling power of His word” is truly profound. The translators of the Amplified Bible included it as an explanatory note to further clarify the message of the Bible. It sheds light on the verbs “brings, causes, and spring,” emphasizing that the word of God inherently possesses the power to bring about what it communicates.

26 And He said, The kingdom of God is like a man who scatters seed upon the ground, 27 And then continues sleeping and rising night and day while the seed sprouts and grows and ^hincreases—he knows not how. 28 The earth produces [acting] by itself—first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ^hJoseph Thayer, A Greek-English Lexicon. The Amplified Bible. The Lockman Foundation, 1987, p. Mk 4:26–28.

2. In this verse, the seed is interpreted as a symbol of the word of God based on the teachings of Jesus. The man in the parable sows the seed and entrusts its growth to the inherent power within it. **He acknowledges that the process is beyond his understanding, yet he maintains unwavering confidence in the seed's ability to grow and yield a harvest. It's automatic!**

- a. **ACTING BY ITSELF (AUTOMATIC)** - 2. *automatos* (ἀὐτόματος, 844), from *autos*, “self,” and a root *ma-*, signifying “desire,” denotes of oneself, moved by one’s own impulse. It occurs in Mark 4:28, of the power of the earth to produce plants and fruits of itself; Acts 12:10, of the door which opened of its own accord. Vine, W. E., et al. Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, vol. 2, T. Nelson, 1996, p. 9.

12 For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the ⁵breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart. ⁶ Joseph Thayer, A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament. The Amplified Bible. The Lockman Foundation, 1987, p. Heb 4:12.

3. God's word is alive and full of His power.

- a. "Living" (Greek *zoe*, "quick" in the old Authorized Version) is "the Word of God." The participle is placed first for the sake of emphasis and dominates all that follows. It is "living" as being the Word of the "living" God, altogether like God in its power. It is an outflow of his life and therefore instinct (imbued or filled with a quality) with the same divine, imperishable, powerful life, either to kindle similar life in us or to react against all opposition. Lenski, R. C. H. The Interpretation of the Epistle to the Hebrews and of the Epistle of James. Lutheran Book Concern, 1938, p. 141.
4. When I speak God's words, He promises to bring them to life (Greek *zoe* - God's life) and make them a reality.
 - a. A TWO "MOUTHED" SWORD - Revelation 1:16 ...and he (Jesus) had in his right hand seven stars, and a sharp double-edged sword coming out of his mouth, and his face was like the sun shining in its strength.
 - b. The Word of God, referred to as the "sword of the Spirit" in Ephesians 6:17, is described as a two-edged sword in Hebrews 4:12 and Revelation 1:16. The Greek term for "double-edged" translates to "two-mouthed," using the word διστομον [distomon - *di* (two), *stomon* (mouth)]. This imagery portrays God's Word as having two mouths or voices. One side represents the Word of God, while the other side symbolizes our own speech. This illustrates the concept that God speaks His Word, and then we are called upon to speak it as well. The two work together!
 - c. When I confess (Greek *homologeo*; *homo* - same, *logos* - word), MY MOUTH IS SPEAKING THE SAME WORD that God Himself speaks (Romans 10:10 - with the mouth confession is made).
 - i. This act becomes a powerful force that releases God's power into my life's circumstances. It brings salvation to my soul, healing to my body, and dismantles the schemes of demonic forces. It also unlocks (keys of the Kingdom) provision for all my needs and more.