

PERMEATING POWER

-Ryan Parsons-

The world doesn't pay much attention to small things. Tiny things are many times considered wimpy. However, scripture teaches us that some of the smallest things, even those not seen by the naked eye, are some of the most powerful.

Solomon, in his wisdom, says that man should observe the ant for its strong work ethic.

Proverbs 6:6

Go to the ant, O sluggard;
consider her ways, and be wise.

Ants are remarkable creatures. It is said that they can carry between 10 and 50 times their body weight. Pair that work ethic with their strength, and you better watch out!

Jesus does something similar in his parables about the kingdom of God. Things seemingly tiny have the ability to grow into a massive infrastructure able to bless others.

Matthew 13:31-32

He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

In the following verse, Jesus shares a one-sentence parable based on culinary arts and microbiology.

Matthew 13:33

He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour till it was all leavened."

Leaven is described in the Bible as having a permeating power to infiltrate something much larger with great ease. In this parable, Jesus says more than seven gallons of flour can be permeated by a small lump of fermented dough dissolved and added to the flour, ultimately leading to a product that could bless many people.

We rarely talk about the kingdom of God. When we do, we don't usually give it power much thought. Yet, nothing can hold it back. If truly introduced, it will change everything. So handle it with reverence and respect. Its permeating power is amazing and its blessings profound.

What might happen if we introduced just a little of God's kingdom to the world around us?

Peace,
Ryan