Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if some-one would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.” He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what par-a-
ble will we use for it? 31 It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown up-on the

ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; 32 yet when it is sown it grows

up and be-comes the great-est of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so

that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” 33 With man-y such par-a-

bles he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak
to them except in par-a-bles, but he ex-plained ev-’ry-thing in pri-vate to his
dis - ci - ples. ¶ The Gos-pel of the Lord. ¶ Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Prepared by William G. Gartig May 26, 2009