

Matt. 17:14-21 PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

When they came to the crowd, a man came up to Yeshua, falling on his knees before Him and saying, 15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is a lunatic and is very ill; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 "I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him." 17 And Yeshua answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted



generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me." 18 And Yeshua rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured at once. 19 Then the disciples came to Yeshua privately and said, "Why could we not drive it out?" 20 (written in red) And He said to them, "Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this **mountain**, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you." [**"But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."**] Here we see another translation error that has been missed by the multitudes. In Yeshua's time He used whatever was

around Him as examples in His teaching and His parables. He used the physical to portray something spiritual. For example, He used nature: fig trees, birds, virgins, vineyards, and mustard seeds because they were part of His surroundings. The mustard is a tenacious weed (tree) that grows everywhere it's not supposed to grow. We would compare it to a thistle in North America. The seed is very small and falls into cracks in rock beds and barren ground. It roots itself in the soil where nothing else can grow and pushes itself up straight as it grows. It will push whatever is above it out of the way as it grows upward. This includes rocks, buildings, and all other objects. The word "mountain" originally meant (in Hebrew) "things representing authority". For example: when the Rabbi's used to argue, they could be heard saying their mountain had more authority than the other Rabbi. When Yeshua says you can move mountains (verse 20), He is not referring to literal mountains, He is referring to spiritual things (matters) in the way of what you are seriously pursuing in your quest for the truth. If you are LIVING as Yeshua did, you can move all spiritual opposition from Satan.

The part that says "*faith the size of a mustard seed*" is incorrectly translated. It should read: "*if you are living as a mustard seed you shall move mountains*". Consider what Ezekiel said in Ezek. 36 when he spoke to the mountains of Israel. Obviously he was not having a conversation with the mountains. He was speaking to the "authorities" in Israel, the religious leaders gone astray. He was warning the people about the goats (Matt. 25:31-33) that were leading the blind sheep astray to spiritual death.

verse 21 (written in red) [**"But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."**] Prior to Yeshua coming, the Rabbi's would speak to the demons in order to cast them out. The demons had to identify themselves in order to be cast out. A mute demon (deaf and dumb) could not be cast out of course because he couldn't speak to them and reveal his name. Some of the disciples were still trying to cast out demons the way the Rabbi's of old did. Yeshua was pointing out that if you follow His word (which

includes fasting on the Feast Of Atonement, and praying..{His house was known as a house of prayer}) you will have His authority and power to cast out demons without talking to them. He was referring to maturing in the word and being baptized in the holy spirit so they could obtain this power and authority, instead of trying to do things the old way.

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