

Parable of the Sower, Matthew 13:1-23

- 19. The Way Side** (word of the kingdom, sown by the wayside!)
- a. Hears the word of the kingdom but does not understand it.
1. Then the wicked one comes and
 2. catches away which was sown in his heart.

20. Stoney Places

- a. Received the seed (the word of the kingdom, the word, the word of God)
1. With joy
 2. Has no root
 3. Only lives for a short while
 - When tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, he is offended.

22. Among the Thorns

- a. Hears the word but,
1. the cares of this world
 2. and the deceitfulness of riches
 - Choke the word and he becomes unfruitful.

23. (But) The good Ground

- a. Received the seed and Hears the word and understands it
1. Bears fruit
 - Bringing forth some 100, some 60, some 30 fold.

Note: verse 19 makes reference to the seed as being the “word of the kingdom”

Parable of the Sower, Mark 4:1-20

- 15. The Way Side** (the word was sewed by the wayside!)
- a. Hears the word
1. Satan comes immediately and
 2. takes away the word sown in their hearts.

16. Stony Ground

- a. Hears the word
1. Immediately receives the word with gladness but,
 2. has no root in themselves and
 3. endure for a short time.
 - When affliction or persecution comes because of the word, immediately they are offended.

18. The Thorns

- a. Hears the word but,
1. the cares of this world
 2. and the deceitfulness of riches
 3. and the lusts of other things entering in
 - Choke the word and it becomes unfruitful.

20. (But) The Good Ground

- a. Hears the word and receives it
1. Brings forth fruit
 - Some 30, some 60 and some 100 fold.

Note: verse 14, “the sower soweth the word”

Parable of the Sower, Luke 8:4-15

- 12. The Way Side** (The word of God is sown by the wayside!)
- a. Hears the word of God
1. Then comes the devil and
 2. takes away the word out of their hearts.
 - So that they won't believe and be saved.

13. The Stony Ground

- a. Hears the word
1. Receives it with joy but,
 2. these have no root and
 3. only believe for a little while.
 - Because of a time of temptation they fall away.

14. The Thorns

- a. Hears the word but,
1. goes forth and is choked and
 2. they do not bring forth fruit to perfection.
 - due to the cares, riches and pleasure of life there is no fruit.

15. (But) The Good Ground

- a. Hears the word
1. in an honest and good heart and therefore
 2. keeps the word which he heard and therefore
 3. Brings forth fruit with patience.

Note: verse 11 says, “the seed is the word of God”

The Sower

1. He sows seed, the word of God

- a. Acts 2:42
- b. 2 Timothy 3:16-4:3

2. He sows it indiscriminately

- a. John 3:16
- b. 2 Peter 3:9
- c. Matthew 22:9

3. He sows because he trusts there will be fruit

- a. The fact that someone sows a seed displays that that person believes there will be fruit. To sow is to demonstrate faith in God's word.
 1. Romans 1:16
 2. 2 Timothy 3:16
 3. 1 Thessalonians 2:13
 4. 1 Peter 1:23

4. He trusts in the seed

- a. The person sowing can't cause the seed to do what it is designed to do. Therefore there is not only a trust that the seed will be fruitful but there is an actual trust in the very seed itself.
 1. Isaiah 55:8-11
 2. Jeremiah 23:28-29

5. He does not trust in the way it is sown

- a. We can use different methods to share the truth and to scatter the seed of the word of God but in the end it is the word itself that has effect. Methods, systems, programs etc. all can have a place and in it of themselves they are not bad. But when we start depending upon these things then we have placed our trust in a place where it ought not to be.

The Soil - our hearts

1. They can be hard, The Ways side

- a. impenetrable, even by the word of God.

2. They can be shallow, The stony places

- a. not allowing root to take hold
- b. easily disappointed

3. They can be crowded, Among the thorns

- a. Allowing things in our hearts that can choke the word
- b. Allowing ourselves to be distracted by things that we are not to be distracted by, even if they are good things.

4. They can be "beautiful", The "Good" ground

- a. Suitable for a seed to germinate and come to full blossom

Jeremiah 4:3 - "Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns."

Hosea 10:12 - "Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you."

Proverbs 4:23 - "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it [are] the issues of life."

Hebrews 12:1-2 - "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset [us], and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Romans 12:1-2 - "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."