

## **PARABLE OF THE SOWER** **Matt 13:3-9; 18-23**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. Try to learn the lesson Jesus is teaching in this parable
- B. Seed (Word of God) is good seed Jhn 17:17; Prov 30:5
- C. Depends on condition of the soil if seed bears fruit
- D. There are four different kinds of soils (hearts) represented
- E. One should apply to us if we are honest with ourselves
- F. We must make application to our lives where needed

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **I. BEHOLD A SOWER WENT FORTH TO SOW**

- A. Seed is the Word of God Lk 8:11
- B. New life impossible without God's word 1Pet 1:23
- C. BEHOLD: to see or call attention to
- D. A SOWER: A preacher, teacher - Christian one who labors spreading the word of God
- E. WENT FORTH: Action on the part of the sower
- F. TO SOW: the "PURPOSE" for going forth
- G. "AND WHEN HE SOWED" he carried out his purpose

#### **II. SOME SEED FELL BY THE WAYSIDE V 19**

- A. WAYSIDE: the footpath or road traveled by workers - a hard surface that seed could not penetrate
  - 1. Heart is hardened by sin Heb 3:13
  - 2. Mind is closed, won't see - won't listen Matt 13:15
- B. Fowls came and devoured the seed
  - 1. Heart so hard will not receive the word
  - 2. Devil comes and takes it away (the wicked one)
- C. Application: Many people hear the word taught but never receive and obey it
  - 1. Even those in assemblies who are supposed to listen don't do so, allow their minds to wander
  - 2. Apply lessons to others or just will not listen at all
- D. Without understanding - no reception

#### **III. SOME FELL ON STONY GROUND VS 20,21**

- A. Was received and sprung up quickly (obeyed)
  - 1. The ground was shallow
    - a. Faith sprang from shallow emotions
    - b. Should come from deep convictions
  - 2. Soil had rocks underneath seed couldn't go deep
    - a. Soil (heart) was not prepared right
    - b. Had doubts and fears - must get rid of these
- B. Sun came up and plants withered away
  - 1. Persecutions and trials 1Pet 4:16
  - 2. Could not stand - were offended 2Tim 3:12
- C. Received with joy, but no depth People same today
  - 1. Accept the Gospel quickly, then lay it aside

- 2. Zealous for a while till the going gets rough
- 3. Friends start to ridicule then they drift away

#### **IV. SOME FELL AMONG THE THORNS V 22**

- A. Again heard, received, indicates obedience (W.E. Vine)
  - 1. Didn't bring forth fruit
  - 2. But for a different reason
- B. Good plants were choked by the thorns
  - 1. Deceitfulness of riches cares of the world
    - a. Cannot serve two masters Matt 6:24
    - b. Cannot care for the world and God at same time
  - 2. Plants became unfruitful
- C. Understood & received, but other interest - Many cease to serve God because of cares & riches of world
  - 1. Demas left for this reason 2Tim 4:10
  - 2. Be not conformed to this world Rom 12:2

#### **V. SOME FELL ON GOOD GROUND V 23**

- A. God's word will accomplish its purpose Isa 55:10,11
- B. Seed is received into the ground (heart)
  - 1. Heart was prepared to receive the word (seed)
  - 2. It was heard and understood (obeyed)
- C. Brought forth fruit, with patience
  - 1. Word heard and obeyed by three kinds of hearts
  - 2. Brought forth fruit by only one kind of heart
  - 3. Cannot expect harvest overnight, must have patience
    - a. Baptism saves 1Pet 3:21
    - b. Add Christian graces 2Pet 1:5-10
    - c. Reap if we faint not Gal 6:9
- D. Understood & received - bearing fruit
  - 1. Thirty - Sixty - Hundred-fold
  - 2. Ought to bear as much fruit as possible Matt 25:19-30

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. The Word (seed) is being taught (sown) today; the word (seed) is being spread and people are hearing - then responsibility is on them as to how they receive and respond to the word
- B. Difference = preparation of the heart - kinds of soils represent conditions of hearts and lives
- C. Is your heart hard as the wayside soil?
- D. Is your faith resting on the thin soil of emotions rather than deep convictions - emotions are important but we must have deep convictions to go with them?
- E. Is your life so filled with the things of the world that your life as a Christian is in danger of being choked out?
- F. Or are you bearing fruit with patience that looks forward to the harvest?