

62 March 26, 2022, Parable of The Sower

Jesus spoke to His disciples to and through **Parables** to have them understand the Kingdom to come as outlined in Mark Chapter 4 of the Bible. He taught the multitudes who followed Him in **Parables**, but yet His disciples and followers asked Him why do you speak to the people in **Parables** in your teaching? His answer was "*To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of God; but those who are outside (of the kingdom) get everything in Parables, in order that while seeing, they may see and not perceive; and while hearing, they may hear and not understand lest they return and be forgiven*". So, the key is that you must return to God and believe in order to understand the word of God. Without this understanding and following God, you will enter the "wide gate" upon physical death while those followers and who understand and comply will enter the narrow gate and know eternal life after death. The Lord goes on to say in the **Parable of the Sower** outlined in this passage "*Do you not understand this parable? And how will you understand all the other Parables?*" **Parables** are known as stories of supernatural living or simple stories used to illustrate moral or spiritual lessons, as told by Jesus in the Gospels. 30% of the teaching of Jesus was and is in **Parables**.

The **Parable of the Sowers** illustrates in words how those of us receive and act on the word of the Bible. In the days of the writing that still apply to us this day, we first understand that there are many people who participate in planting and growing seeds for food to sustain life. Picture a field where people come together to till the soil and plant seeds for growth. They all participate in tilling the land where afterwards they cut pathways or roads between each other's portion of the field, followed by sowing seeds on the **hardened soils, rocky soils, thorny soils**, and on the **good soils** all to be nourished with the rain and the sun provided by God.

First understand that seeds need to have time to grow and germinate and their purpose is to multiply beyond one seed to thirty, sixty, or even hundred-fold in output. So is a Christian-based lifestyle as time is needed to gain growth in the Word. The seeds that fell on paths or roadways fell on **hardened soil** with no opportunity to gain root and grow. So, the birds came and ate the seeds preventing an opportunity for growing and multiplying. This is likened to the Sower of the word of God, anyone of us who are disciples of Christ, who deliver the Word and is received by a new Christian, but it is short-lived, and Satan steals the opportunity for the new convert to grow in the word of God and follow Him to their destiny.

Then the seeds that fall on **rocky soils**, likened to those that hear the word and immediately receive it with joy, but they have no firm root in themselves but in the world and thus just temporary, so when affliction or persecution comes because of the Word, immediately they fall away from pursuing the Christian-based life. Likewise, the seeds that fall among **thorny soil** are the ones who have heard the word of God but the worries of the world with the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires of other things enter in and choke the Word and it becomes unfruitful.

But there are those on whom seed was sown on **good soil** who hear the Word and accept it that bear the fruit of thirty, sixty, or a hundred-fold increase to bring disciples into the Kingdom. The Lord goes on to say that a lamp is not brought to be put under a peck-measure or under a bed. It is brought to be put on the lampstand for nothing is hidden except to be revealed nor has anything been secret, but that it should come to light. The Lord's instructions and teachings are normally always followed by His signature statement "*If any man has ears to hear, let him hear, and if he has eyes to see, let him see*". We must listen as what we hear and see is a measure of what we will do. A summary of the four types of soil reveals that maybe 25% receive, act, and grow up in the destiny God provides each of us.

A Kingdom principle is that for you to go “up” as to an eternal life, you must expect to go “down” as with persecution, troubles, crisis, and tribulations so as in perseverance comes growth in the principals of the Word. Persecution keeps our heart pure, and God always looks at our heart. As the seeds in **good soil** go “up” you become more mature in the Christian walk. Our DNA is to run to Him, and never run from Him as He created all of us to His good in the creation of the world and universe. If you are those seeds who fell on hardened, rocky, or thorny soil, there is always repentance to confess your sins, turn away from the draw of the world, and change your direction to focus on God who hears your prayers and worship – in simple Biblical principles “ask Him, believing in Him, and He will answer you”. God is a God of **LOVE**, trust in Him and you will prosper in Him. We are each pregnant with the word of God but beware the world is forcing us to choose between **Jesus the Christ** or the Antichrist that is more and more apparent and influencing our lives.