



The Parable of the Sower

(Matthew 13:1-23)

Introduction:

1. This parable we are going to examine this morning may better be entitled, "The Parable of the Soils."
2. This parable can also be found in Mark 4:1-20 and Luke 8:4-15.

I. Our Beautiful Past and Our Beautiful Opportunity

- A. Each of us have lived different lives. Each of us have and had different opportunities.
- B. Each of us have sinned (made mistakes). (Romans 3:23; 1 John 3:4)
- C. Some of us have become Christians, still at different points in our lives.
 1. Sanctification comes through the Word. (John 17:17)
 2. Faith comes through hearing the Word. (Romans 10:17)
 3. Faith is believing God, obeying God and continuing with God (Hebrews 11:1, 6)
 4. Faith produces repentance, a change of heart. (Acts 2:38)
 5. Faith produces confession. (Acts 8:37)
 6. Faith will cause one to be immersed (baptized) for the reasons found in the Bible. (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
 7. Faith will cause one to remain loyal and faithful to God. (Revelation 2:10)
- D. Are you a Christian or are you a wayside soil, a stony soil, or a thorny soil?
- E. Challenge yourself today to be top soil and reach for eternity.

II. Which Type of Soil are You?

- A. Seed by the wayside:
 1. This person has heard but they do not understand. (Matthew 13:19)
 2. Satan takes the word away immediately (Mark 4:15)
 3. Notice that the word was in their heart, but then it immediately left (Mark 4:15)
 4. This taking away of the word occurs before they have a chance to believe and be saved. (Luke 8:12)
- B. Seed on stony ground:
 1. This person hears, receives it with joy, but there is no stability (Matthew 13:20-21)
 2. Persecution arises and they disappear. (Matthew 13:21)
 3. Temptation draws them away. (Luke 8:13)
- C. Seed in the midst of thorns:
 1. This person hears the word, but the desires of this world overtake the gospel. (Matthew 13:22)
 2. Notice the word may be in their hearts, but the cares of this world have made them unfruitful (Matthew 13:22)

- D. Seed on the good ground
 - 1. This is where you should be!
 - 2. This person hears the word, understands it, and produces fruit (Matthew 13:23).
 - 3. This person is one who accepts the word of the kingdom. (Mark 4:20)
 - 4. Some will produce more than others – *but they will produce!* (Matthew 13:23)

III. Are You Sowing?

- A. Notice that in all of this parable that the sower kept on sowing.
- B. Many of the seeds would not produce (Matthew 13:19-22), but there were some that did produce (Matthew 13:23).
- C. What type of seed are you sowing?
 - 1. Some may sow discord. (Proverbs 6:14, 19)
 - 2. Some sow trouble and iniquity. (Job 4:8)
 - 3. Still others sow strife. (Proverbs 16:28)
 - 4. Some sow for the flesh. (Galatians 6:8)
- D. Are you sowing the seed of the kingdom? (Mark 4:14; Luke 8:11)
 - 1. (1 Corinthians 3:6-8)

Conclusion:

- 1. Jesus gave a simple illustration to bring about a great eternal point.
- 2. Each of us fits a category of soil, but which one?
- 3. Each of us sows, but what do we sow?
- 4. The time of re-evaluation is now! The time of repentance is now! The time to sow is now!
- 5. “And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” (Galatians 6:9)