



## Parables of Jesus—The Kingdom

### The Sower

#### *The Message of the Kingdom*

In this parable we are both the sower and the soil. We both sow the Word into the lives of others and have the Word sown into our lives. **What kind of sower and soil are you?**

#### A. The Sower — Jesus (and us)

1. Jesus was teaching His disciples that the work of the Kingdom was sharing the Gospel but NOT everyone would receive the Word the same way.

#### B. The Seed — The Word of God

1. The seed sown is the Word of God!
2. God's desire is that all men might be saved! *1 Tim 2:4; 2 Pet 3:9*

#### C. The Soil — Four Kinds of Soil

The four types of soil represent four types of people and how they respond to (*hear*) the gospel message. They also reveal heart attitudes within the Church.

1. Wayside: Indifferent *Mat 13:4; 18-19* **Hard Heart**  
[Controlled by self and others]
  - a. The hard packed soil beside the road.
  - b. Through resistance to God the soil of this persons heart has been pounded down till it is insensitive and unresponsive.
  - c. Since the Word never gets to the heart—this person is open to the influence of the enemy—the birds [Satan].
2. Stony Places: Shallow *Mat 13:5-6; 20-21* **Shallow Heart**  
[Controlled by emotion and fear]
  - a. Repentance first—then joy. Joy alone can be misleading.
  - b. Easy grace or the full gospel message?
  - c. Temporary help or a permanent solution?
  - d. Authentic salvation will stand the test of tribulation.
3. Thorns: Worldliness *Mat 13:7; 22* **Strangled Heart**  
[Controlled by fleshly desire]
  - a. "If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him." *1 Joh 2:15-16*
  - b. **Worldliness**: Loving the values and pursuits of the world that stand opposed to God. It is to gratify and exalt oneself to the exclusion of God. It rejects God's rule and replaces it with our own and exalts our opinions above God's truth. It elevates our sinful desires for the things of this fallen world above God's command and promises. "Worldliness" *C.J. Mahaney pg 27*
4. Good Ground: Responsive *Mat 13:8; 23* **Open Heart**  
[Controlled by the Holy Spirit]
  - a. The mark of the authentic believer is fruit bearing.
  - b. Spiritual fruit is the product of a spiritual life.
  - c. 10,000, 6,000 and 3,000 percent increase.
  - d. Not all bear the same amount of fruit—but all bear fruit.

Mathew 13:3-8; 18-23

**:3** Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "**Behold, a sower went out to sow.**

**:4** And as he sowed, some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.

**:18** "Therefore hear the parable of the sower:

**:19** When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

**:5** Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

**:6** But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

**:20** But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

**:21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

**:7** And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

**:22** Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

**:8** But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

**:23** But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."