

Parable of the Sower

Mt. 13:1-9, 18-23; Mk. 4:1-9, 14-20; Lk. 8:4-8, 11-15

- I. The parable (Mt. 13:3-8; Mk. 4:3-8; Lk. 8:5-8)
 - A. A sower sowed (Mt. 13:3; Mk. 4:3; Lk. 8:5)
 - B. Places where seed fell (Mt. 13:4-8; Mk. 4:4-8; Lk. 8:5-8)
 - 1. Way side – birds ate them (Mt. 13:4; Mk. 4:4; Lk. 8:5)
 - 2. Stony places – sun scorched them (Mt. 13:5-6; Mk. 4:5-6; Lk. 8:6)
 - 3. Among thorns – thorns choked them (Mt. 13:7; Mk. 4:7; Lk. 8:7)
 - 4. Good ground – they bore fruit (Mt. 13:8; Mk. 4:8; Lk. 8:8)
- II. Explanation of the parable (Mt. 13:18-23; Mk. 4:14-20; Lk. 8:11-15)
 - A. The sower & the seed are a preacher & the word of God (Mk. 4:14; Lk. 8:11)
 - B. Seed by the way side (Mt. 13:19; Mk. 4:15; Lk. 8:12)
 - 1. Hear the word but don't understand (Mt. 13:19a)
 - 2. Satan takes the word from their heart (Mt. 13:19b; Mk. 4:15; Lk. 8:12a)
 - 3. Prevented from belief & salvation (Lk. 8:12b)
 - C. Seed in stony places (Mt. 13:20-21; Mk. 4:16-17; Lk. 8:13)
 - 1. Hear & receive the word (Mt. 13:20; Mk. 4:16; Lk. 8:13a)
 - 2. Have no root & believe only for awhile (Mt. 13:21a; Mk. 4:17a; Lk. 8:13b)
 - 3. Fall away due to tribulation, affliction, temptation & persecution (Mt. 13:21b; Mk. 4:17b; Lk. 8:13c)
 - D. Seed among thorns (Mt. 13:22; Mk. 4:18-19; Lk. 8:14)
 - 1. Hear the word & go forth (Mt. 13:22a; Mk. 4:18; Lk. 8:14a)
 - 2. The word is choked by worldly cares, riches, pleasures & other desires (Mt. 13:22a; Mk. 4:19a; Lk. 8:14b)
 - 3. Bears no fruit (Mt. 13:22c; Mk. 4:19b; Lk. 8:14c)
 - E. Seed in good ground (Mt. 13:23; Mk. 4:20; Lk. 8:15)
 - 1. Hear & understand the word (Mt. 13:23a; Mk. 4:20a)
 - 2. Have a good & honest heart (Lk. 8:15a)
 - 3. Keep the word (Lk. 8:15b)
 - 4. Bears fruit (Mt. 13:23b; Mk. 4:20b; Lk. 8:15c)
- III. Lessons from the parable
 - A. Reasons people fall away (cf. Mt. 13:21-22; Mk. 4:17-19; Lk. 8:13-14)
 - 1. Tribulation & affliction (cf. Mt. 13:21; Mk. 4:17)
 - a) Will suffer tribulation in the world (Jn. 16:33; 1 Th. 3:4)
 - b) God & fellow Christians comfort (2 Co. 1:4)
 - c) Present suffering incomparable to future glory (Ro. 8:17-18)
 - d) Tribulation produces patience (Ro. 5:8)
 - e) Affliction leads to eternal glory (2 Co. 4:17)
 - 2. Temptation (cf. Lk. 8:13)
 - a) God isn't responsible for temptation (Ja. 1:13-14)
 - b) God provides escape from temptation (1 Co. 10:13; 2 Pe. 2:9)
 - c) Enduring temptation results in blessing (Ja. 1:12)

3. Persecution (cf. Mt. 13:21; Mk. 4:17)
 - a) Godly will suffer persecution (2 Ti. 3:12)
 - b) Persecuted will be blessed (Mt. 5:10-12; Lk. 6:22-23)
 4. Worldly cares (cf. Mt. 13:22; Mk. 4:19; Lk. 8:14)
 - a) Jesus warned of worldly cares (Mt. 6:25-34; Lk. 12:22-31)
 - b) Shouldn't be anxious because God cares (Ph. 4:6; 1 Pe. 5:7; cf. Ps. 37:5; 55:22)
 5. Riches (cf. Mt. 13:22; Mk. 4:19; Lk. 8:14)
 - a) Can't serve God & riches (Mt. 6:24; Lk. 16:13)
 - b) Those who desire riches fall into temptation (1 Ti. 6:9-10)
 6. Pleasures (cf. Lk. 8:14)
 - a) Some love pleasure more than God (2 Ti. 3:4)
 - b) Moses chose not to enjoy sinful pleasures (He. 11:24-25)
- B. Bearing fruit (cf. Mt. 13:23; Mk. 4:20; Lk. 8:15)
1. Fruit is good deeds (cf. Ga. 5:22-23; Co. 1:10)
 2. Bearing fruit is necessary (Jn. 15:2, 5, 8, 16; Ph. 1:10-11; cf. Mt. 3:10)
 3. Known by fruit (Mt. 7:15-20; 12:33; Lk. 6:43-45)