



THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Luke 8:1-15

INTRODUCTION

1. There are 3 keywords in this passage
 - i. The Sower
 - ii. The seed
 - iii. The soil
2. All 3 factors are needed to produce a crop
3. The Sower is the Preacher
4. The seed is God's word
5. The soil is your response!

INTRODUCTION...



Here the Bible does not say that the Sower planted the seeds one by one in descent rows. Rather he scatters them randomly. He doesn't care where the seeds land.

This reminds me of public preaching of God's word. Of course your Pastor does not preach the word ignorantly, but neither he speaks to each person in the congregation individually. He is aware of the flock's spiritual, physical and emotional needs and preaches to meet them.

What is being preached and how it's done is important. But even the most anointed message could fail depending on the recipient's attitude. So what kind of soil really are you?

THE SEED LANDED ON 4 TYPES OF SOIL...

Some fell on the path.

It was trampled on,

and the birds of the air ate it
up..., (v. 5)

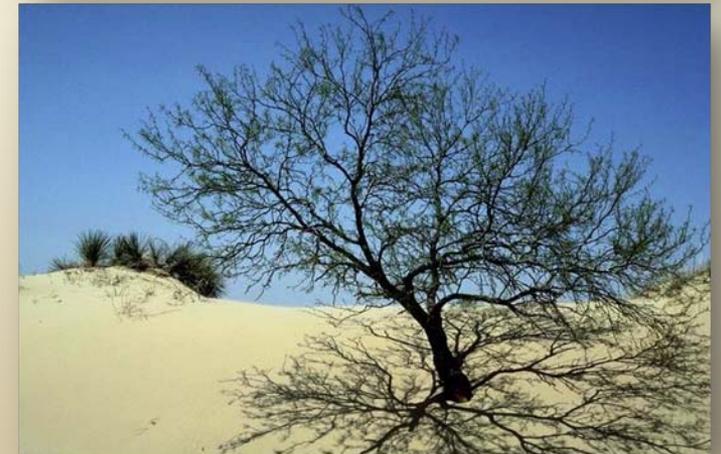


THE SEED LANDED ON 4 TYPES OF SOIL...

Some fell on rock,
and when it came up,
the plants withered



Because
they had no moisture..., (v. 6)



THE SEED LANDED ON 4 TYPES OF SOIL...

Some fell among thorns,
which grew up
with it and
choked the plants..., (v. 7)



THE SEED LANDED ON 4 TYPES OF SOIL...

Still other seed fell on good soil.

It came up and yielded a crop,
a hundred times
more than was sown. (v.8)



THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

1. People who listen but don't receive (The seed that fell on the path)

- i. How receptive are you?
- ii. The degree of your spiritual growth depends on how much you are willing receive.
- iii. Reasons why a person becomes unreceptive
 - A. Spiritual pride
 - B. Ignorance
 - C. Unwilling to submit
- iv. Growth terminates
 - i. You never grow to be a child of God, because the seed is gone.
 - ii. If there's any life within you it fades and ultimately you become empty



THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

2. People who listen but don't root in the word (The seed that fell on the rocky ground)

- i. Too emotional
 - A. Overly sensitive
 - B. Attends church to feel God
- ii. Not interested in exercising the faith
 - A. Never move on to discipleship
 - B. No desire to serve others, lot of excuses
(Proverbs 22:13)
- iii. Such faith cannot last longer
 - A. Stumbles before the face of hardships and persecution.
 - B. Weak like a Banana tree, not strong as a Almond tree.



THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

3. Christians who compromise with the World (The seed that fell among thorn bushes)

- i. No true commitment
 - A. No backbone to stand for the truth.
 - B. Saturday nights at the strip bar, Sunday mornings at the church.
 - C. Desire of the flesh and the will of the spirit cannot co-exist. One overcomes the other.
(Galatians 5:17)
- ii. Wrong priorities
 - A. Worries of life
 - B. Chase after wealth
 - C. No relationship with Jesus
 - D. Top priority is given for natural pleasures



THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

3. This is the true Christian
(The seed that fell on the right soil)
 - i. He has received the word in the first place.
 - A. Life stands on a strong biblical foundation (Luke 6:46-48)
 - B. Not carried away by emotions
 - C. Finds strength in the Lord in the face of hardships and persecution (1 Peter 4:12-14)
 - ii. Priorities are in right order
 - iii. Does not compromise with the world
 - iv. Always seeks to Grow
 - A. Has a strong desire to be discipled
 - B. Perseveres till he bear fruits
 - C. The end result is bountiful harvest, this kind of Christian becomes a living testimony to those around him.





APPLICATION & CONCLUSION

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OK! NOW WHAT??

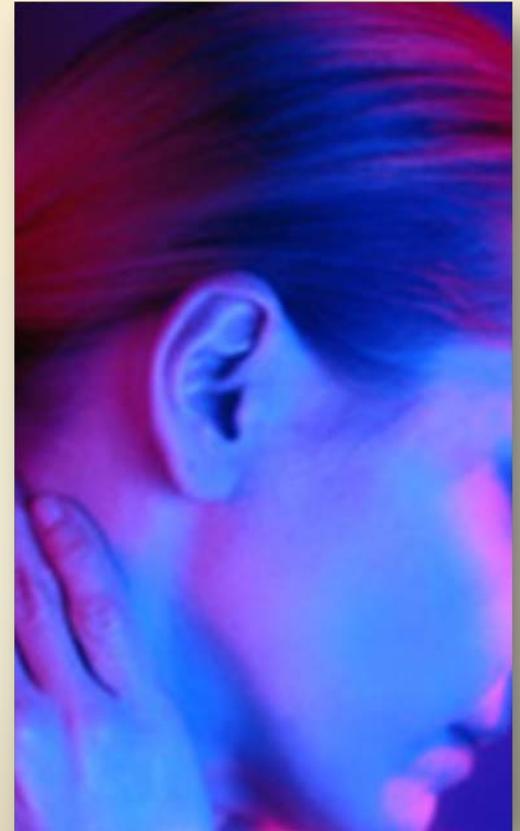
Luke 8:8 says the following,

‘When Jesus said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Jesus said this several times, the book of Revelation uses the phrase 8 times.

The phrase is a bell ringer. It’s a wakeup call. It’s an urgent request to listen to God’s word and do as he said.

Now let us see what is the practical lesson in this parable.



WHAT MUST I DO SO THAT I CAN BE A FRUITFUL CHRISTIAN...?

4. **Start by changing your unreceptive attitude, if you haven't already.**
 - i. Learn to listen (Isaiah 6:9)
 - A. Your response to word has been like the seeds fell along the path.
 - B. But still you can change by making yourself receivable.
 - a. Submit your self to godly rebuke and confrontation (2 Timothy 4:1-4)
 - b. Don't let pride to prevent God's word from shaping your character.
 - c. Don't listen to enemy's whisper, that makes you feel offended about your Pastor's preaching.
 - d. Don't be ignorant. Non of us are perfect. Let the Holy Spirit to search you inside out.



WHAT MUST I DO SO THAT I CAN BE A FRUITFUL CHRISTIAN...?

4. 2nd category? Let's root deeper

- i. Grow up! Don't get carried away by emotions
- ii. Learn to forgive and forget
- iii. Don't feel satisfied by being a spectator
- iv. Get involved
 - A. Stop giving excuses why you can not get involved
 - B. Have a desire to serve others on behalf of God
- v. Be teachable
 - A. Never make this mistake; 'I know everything'
 - B. Take part in regular Sunday service, small groups, prayer cells. Let your faith be strengthen
 - C. These help you to become a Almond tree Christian instead of a Banana tree Christian.



WHAT MUST I DO SO THAT I CAN BE A FRUITFUL CHRISTIAN...?

5. Stop compromising!!!!

- i. Remember flesh and the spirit can not co-exist
 - A. Stop scratching your head and stop bargaining with sin.
 - B. You cannot pet sin, one day it will devour you.
 - C. Judgment is promised to those who compromise with the world

- iii. Don't be too late
 - A. Repent and ask God to forgive you
 - B. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you strength
 - C. Stay away from compromising situations

- iv. Set your priorities
 - A. Let God be the top priority in your life (Matthew 6:24)
 - B. Don't let the worries of life to distract you (Luke 12:22-27)
 - C. Make a fresh commitment right now...!



WHAT IF I AM LIKE THE RIGHT SOIL...?

What if you are like the seed that fell on right soil?

- i. Non of us are perfect, still you have to go on a long journey till you are graduated . Therefore look out for snares of the enemy
- ii. Seek to grow in every possible situation (2 Timothy 4:5-6)
- iii. Don't cease to bear fruit
- iv. Let the Holy Spirit of God to shape you in every day of your life
- v. Pray for those who haven't made it yet

