

# The Parable of the Soils

Four Soils to Consider

1. The Wayside
2. The Stony Places
3. The Thorny Places
4. The Good Soil

## The Parable

### Matt 13:3-9

Notice the two constants:

1. The Sower
2. The Seed

## The Wayside

The seed that fell on the wayside, \_\_\_\_\_ began to grow. It developed no roots, sprouted no leaves, and bore no fruit. There is no evidence the seed even existed.

The birds \_\_\_\_\_ the seed.

### Matt 13:18-20

The one who receives the seed on the wayside is one who hears the word (the seed has been planted), but does not understand it. \_\_\_\_\_ comes and snatches away the seed that was sown in his heart.

## Examples

**John 12:37** *But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him.*

Many of the religious leaders of the day did not believe in Jesus because their hearts were too hard.

In spite of the \_\_\_\_\_, they did not believe!

**Acts 4:14-17** *And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. 15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, 16 saying, "What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. 17 But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name."*

The members of the council heard the word, saw the \_\_\_\_\_, yet they did not believe.

**Acts 17:32-33** *And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, while others said, "We will hear you again on this matter." 33 So Paul departed from among them.*

Many of the men of Athens had \_\_\_\_\_ hearts. They did not understand the resurrection.

# The Stony Places

**Matthew 13:5**

**Matthew 24:8-14** "... you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake... And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved."

Jesus often \_\_\_\_\_ his apostles about upcoming persecution.

## Examples

**John 6:66-69** *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" 68 But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

Many of the disciples left Jesus because his sayings were too difficult. They had do \_\_\_\_\_ of soil. They didn't believe the fundamentals. They never came to believe that Jesus was the Christ.

Peter had the depth of soil that allowed him to \_\_\_\_\_ fruit.

**Acts 5:29-32** *But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." ... 40 And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.*

The apostles bore fruit during times of \_\_\_\_\_. They were prepared because they spent time with Jesus.

**Acts 7:57-60** *Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; 58 and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

Stephen was persecuted to the point of death. He gave up his life for his \_\_\_\_\_.

# The Thorny Places

**Matt 13:7**

The seed planted among the thorns are the ones who believe, obey, and \_\_\_\_\_ bearing fruit, then the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word.

**Phil 3:17-21** *Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame — who set their mind on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.*

Paul was weeping knowing that there were some Christians who set their mind on \_\_\_\_\_ things. Paul says their god is their belly.

## Examples

**1 Tim 1:18-20** *This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, 19 having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, 20 of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.*

Hymenaeus and Alexander suffered spiritual shipwreck. They returned to the world.

**2 Peter 2:20-22** *For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."*

When someone is overcome by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world, they are compared to a dog that returns to his own vomit.

**Acts 5:1-6** *But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. 2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? 4 While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." 5 Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. 6 And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him.*

It was the \_\_\_\_\_ of riches and the cares of this world that caused Ananias and Sapphira to lie to the Holy Spirit. This cost them their lives.

## The Good Soil

### Matt 13:8-9

The good soil hears the word, understands it, and \_\_\_\_\_ fruit.

**Acts 2:40-43** *And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

At one time in his life Peter heard but did not \_\_\_\_\_. **Mark 4:13** – *Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?*

At one time Peter lacked the \_\_\_\_\_ to bear fruit. At least three times Jesus chastised Peter for his lack of faith.

At one time Peter lacked the \_\_\_\_\_ to bear fruit. After the Lord's death, Peter went fishing.

On the Day of Pentecost Peter bore much fruit.

**Acts 4:1-4** *Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them, 2 being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. 4 However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.*

Peter was glad to suffer persecution for the Lord. On this occasion Peter's efforts led \_\_\_\_\_ thousand people to the Lord.

**What kind of Soil are You?**