

LUKE 8:4-15

LESSON: PARABLES OF THE SOILS —January 19, 2020

INTRODUCTION

7:44-50 Jesus turns to the woman, and says to Simon, *"do you see this woman?"* Jesus had come into Simon's house and no one gave Him water for His feet; no one extended any courtesies, but this woman washed His feet with her tears and wiped them dry with the hairs on her head. Simon gave Him no kiss, but this woman didn't cease to kiss His feet from the time He entered into the house. Simon didn't anoint His head with oil, but this woman anointed Jesus' feet with ointment. The woman's sins were many, but they are forgiven, for she loved much, but the man who has little to be forgiven, has only a little love to give. Jesus says unto the woman: *"You are forgiven."* The other guests began to ask within themselves, *"who is this that can forgive sins?"* Jesus turns to the woman to tell her that her faith has saved her, and now, she can go in peace.

8:1-3 Jesus and His twelve disciples went through all the towns and villages in Galilee. In each place, Jesus preached and proclaimed the glad tidings about the Kingdom of God. Jesus comes in the name of the King, representing the King, preaching the Gospel of God the King. With Him were some women whom he had cured of evil spirits and diseases. They were grateful for what He had done and very devoted to Jesus! Among these women were Mary Magdalene from whom seven demons had gone out; Joanna, the wife of Chuza, who was the manager of Herod's house, Susanna and many other women who represent the unknown and quiet, but important followers. There might have been more women than men following Jesus. These women used their own resources to help Jesus and His disciples.

LESSON: I. THE PARABLE LUKE 8:4-9

8:4 And when much people were gathered together, and were come to him out of every city, he spake by a parable:— The whole country was in a state of revival as many people gathered together, coming from every city as Jesus spoke a parable. Jesus began a parable to speak to and warn every hearer.

8:5 A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. This parable is known as "The Parable of the Sower" or "The Parables of the Soil." It has a physical and spiritual meaning. First, look at the sower: he went out and sowed.

- The "Sower" is the farmer or in the spiritual, the witness.
- He "sows" meaning spreads, scatters, and proclaims the "seed" meaning "the Word of God" to others.
- The Sower has to sow the seed into the "soil" or ground which is the heart.

GJW

We know that the "preacher" goes out and sows the Word of God, but do we as "lay people" go out



to sow the Word of God. In this parable...

1. Some seeds fell by *"the wayside"* (out of the field upon the walking paths and roads).
 - Those seeds were trampled down. The paths and roads were trodden down and the soil was hard.
 - And the birds of the air consumed the seeds because the seed just laid on top of the soil for them to devour.

The message spread is about the Kingdom of God; the territory where God rules. And the people who hear the Word of God could not receive it.

8:6 And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture.

2. Some of the seeds fell *"upon the rock"*, that is, a large layer of rock lying under the surface. There was not much soil because of the rocks, but, as soon as it started to grow, it soon withered away because the water soon evaporated, leaving nothing but dry soil. The sun scorched the plant. The soil had no depth because of the rocks.

People hear the message, but the message doesn't root very deeply, thus when persecution comes, the enthusiasm fades and drops out.

8:7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it.

3. Some of the seeds fell *"among the thorns"*, that is, the seeds sprouted, but the plants were soon choked to death by thorns.

People hear the message, but Satan crowds the message out with worldly cares and pleasures.

8:8 And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

4. Some of the seeds fell *"on good ground"*, and the seed sprang up and was very fruitful, bearing a hundredfold. A *"hundredfold"* is a hundred times more of the harvest of what was sown.

People hear the message, and because it is sown on good ground, the seed and soil come together, increasing into a tremendous harvest, bringing more than expected. Jesus ends His parable by crying out *"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear"*, because there were some that did not have that listening ear to hear; that is, they were closed to Jesus' gospel and could not comprehend within, for their hearts were hardened, this was a warning for them!

8:9 And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be? — The disciples desired to know the truth about this parable, so later on they asked Jesus its meaning.

II. THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE LUKE 8:10-15

8:10 And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. Jesus gave two reasons of Him speaking such a parable.

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE



1. God is willing to reveal to believers the understanding of the mysteries of the kingdom of God— spiritual things. God was ready for His disciples to receive; therefore, He reveals to open hearts; the persons who really seek God; thirst after Him to learn all they can about the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. Once you've accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, as these disciples, He lets His disciples know to draw near to God and He will draw near to you.
2. God cannot reveal the mysteries of the kingdom of God— spiritual things to unbelievers. They are concealed and hidden to closed minds: those who ignore, neglect, and could not care less about God. Closed minds are hardened and unwilling to consider or understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of God, and they begin to mock what they can't understand. He does not reward unbelief. They don't see after seeing, and they don't understand after hearing because of willful blindness, and a lack of comprehension, for what they had no desire to know.

Some of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God:

- The incarnation and virgin birth of Christ (Matt.1:16; 1:23).
- The ideal and perfect righteousness of Christ secured by His living a sinless life while on earth (Matt.5:17-18).
- The death of Christ on the cross for man (Matt.27:26-56).
- The intercessory work of Christ going on right now (Heb.3:1).
- The Holy Spirit and His presence in the believer (Jh.14:16-21)
- The material world and the spiritual world, or the physical and spiritual dimension of being (Matt.6:9).
- Man's sinfulness and his dead spirit due to sin (Eph.2:1-3).
- The church, both local and universal and the mixture of both good and evil in it (Matt.13:1-52).
- The future resurrection (1 Cor.15:51).
- The destruction and remaking of the heaven and earth into a perfect universe (2 Pt.3:10-13)

There is either gain or loss: 1. Believers seek, and therefore receive. 2. Unbelievers reject, and therefore lose.

8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Jesus begins to tell the parable to His disciples. He begins by letting them know that the "*seed*" is "*the Word of God.*" To extend it out even further: The "*Sower*" is the Lord Jesus Christ or a servant of His. The "*Word of God*" is sown into the "*soil*" (heart). And the type of soil is how it is received to grow.

8:12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. The success of the seed depends upon one thing alone; the condition of the soil (the heart) to receive (the Word). When the person heard the Word, some of the seeds fell by the way side and had gotten hard and were allowed to get crushed, thereby, their minds wandered and they fail to believe. They hear but didn't listen; they hear but don't care, and the devil comes and snatches that Word away from their hearts because the devil does not want them to believe or be saved.

1. The Seed that fell by the wayside:

www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html

- a. **Identifies** with a person who is close-minded and hard.
- b. **The Problem** is that his heart is not soft; the seed is unable to penetrate.
- c. **The Result** is that Satan snatches the seed away.

8:13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. When the person heard the Word, those seeds that fell on the rock; rocky ground where roots couldn't grow, but received the Word with joy, but there is a failure to count the cost or the commitment to the Word. Therefore, the person does not become rooted and grounded in the Word. He is only a superficial believer; a lot of hype, but no follow through in standing on the Word when trials and temptations come. He falls away.

2. The Seed that fell on the rock:

- a. **Identifies** with a person who experiences a quick, dramatic conversion.
- b. **The Problem** is that the heart has little root and is unprepared to face the trials and persecution of life.
- c. **The Result** is that he falls away.

8:14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. When the person heard the Word, those seeds fell among thorns choking out that Word with worldly cares and riches and pleasures of this life. The ground consisted of thorns that had gone deep in the soil causing many problems. The seeds that were trying to grow were choked out, therefore, no fruit appears to ripen. The cares and riches, and pleasures of this life were already rooted in the soil and received the most attention, thereby suffocating and overpowering; leaving no room for the fruit that was supposed to come forth.

3. The Seed the fell among thorns:

- a. **Identifies** with a person who is religious and worldly minded.
- b. **The Problem** is the sin of worldliness.
- c. **The Result** is that the Word is choked and he bears no fruit.

8:15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. When the person heard the Word, those seeds that fell on good ground was received with an honest and good heart. There were no seeds that fell by the wayside, no seeds that fell on the rocks, and no seeds that fell among the thorns. The seeds (the Word) was kept deep in the ground (heart) and nurtured (watered) and brought forth fruit with patience.

4. The Seed that fell on good ground:

- a. **Identifies** with a person who hears and understands the Word.
- b. **The Result** is that they bear fruit, but they bear different percentages.

SUMMARY:

Many people came from every city gathered together to hear Jesus, but Jesus speaks a parable to His disciples and the multitude that warns every hearer: when hearing and how the Word produces when sown. The parable began like this: A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. Some seeds fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. Some seeds fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. Other seeds fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit a hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, *"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."* The disciples desired to know the truth about this parable, so later on they asked Jesus its meaning. **(8:4-9).**

Jesus lets His disciples know that the mysteries of the kingdom of God are given to them to know; to be revealed, but to others (unbelievers) He speaks in parables that they don't see after seeing, and they don't understand after hearing because of willful blindness and a lack of comprehension, for they had no desire to know. Jesus begins by letting His disciples know what the parable meant, that is, the "seed" is "the Word of God." It's sown into the soil (the heart). Some of the Word that's sown, fell by the wayside into the soil (the heart). They heard the Word, some of the seeds fell by the way side, and had gotten hard and were allowed to get crushed, thereby, their minds wandered and they fail to believe. The devil comes and snatches that Word away from their hearts because the devil does not want them to believe or be saved. And then there were seeds that fell on the rock; rocky ground where roots couldn't grow. For a while they believed and received the Word with joy, the heart had little root, and in the time of temptation, trials and persecution, they fall away being unprepared to face life. And then there were seeds that fell among thorns, which choked out that Word they heard. Therefore, no fruit appeared to perfection because of worldly cares and riches and pleasures of this life. Then, there were seeds that fell on good ground and received with an honest and good heart. The seeds were kept in the heart and watered, and brought forth fruit with patience **(8:10-15).**