

# THE FOUR KINDS OF SOIL

MATTHEW 13 MARK 4 LUKE 8

## JESUS GIVES THE PARABLE

- ¶ 1. That same day, Jesus went out from the house and was sitting by the sea,
2. and large crowds gathered about him, so that he boarded a boat and sat down, and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
3. And he spoke many things to them in parables, saying, “A sower went out to sow,
4. and as he sowed, some *seed* fell along the road, and they were trampled under foot, and the birds came and ate them up.
5. But others fell on stony ground, where they didn’t have much soil, and since they had no depth of soil, they immediately sprang up;
6. but when the sun rose, they were scorched, and they withered away because they had no root, for they had no moisture.
7. And other *seed* fell among thorns, and they bore no fruit, for the thorns grew up with them and choked them.
8. And others fell on good soil; and they sprouted and grew and yielded fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.
9. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

## THE DISCIPLES’ QUESTIONS

- ¶ 10. And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve questioned him about the parable.
- ¶ 10. And the disciples approached him and said, “What does this parable mean? Why do you talk to them in parables?”
11. He answered and said to them, “To you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given; it must all be in parables.
12. Whoever has, to him *more* will be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.
13. The reason I speak to them in parables is that ‘Seeing, they do not see, and hearing, they do not hear, nor do they understand.’
14. And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled which says, ‘You will indeed hear, but you will by no means understand, and you will indeed see, but you will by no means perceive;
15. for the heart of this people has been made hard, and they have heard with dull ears, and they have shut their eyes, lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand in their heart, and repent, and I heal them.’
16. But your eyes are blessed because they see, and your ears, because they hear.
17. Truly, I tell you that many prophets and righteous men longed to see the things you are seeing, and did not see *them*, and to hear the things you are hearing, and did not hear *them*.”
13. And then he said to them, “You haven’t understood this parable? Then how will you know any parable?”

## EXPLANATION OF THE PARABLE

18. **Hear now the parable of the sower:**
11. **This is the parable: The seed is the word of God.**
14. **The sower sows the word.**
19. **When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand, Satan, the Evil One, the Slanderer, immediately comes and snatches away the word, which was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the road.**
20. **The one sown on stony places is the one who hears the word, and immediately receives it with joy,**
21. **yet he has no root in himself, and lives but for a time, and in the time of testing, when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, he is immediately offended.**
22. **The one who was sown among thorns is one who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches, and pleasures of life, and desires for other things entering in, choke out the word, and he becomes unfruitful.**
23. **But the one sown on good soil, he is one who, with an honest and good heart, hears the word and understands; he bears fruit with patience, and produces, this one a hundredfold, this one sixty, and this one thirty.”**