

**THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
OPEN HEAVENS ASSEMBLY, TROYEVILLE**

DIGGING DEEP

The Parable of the Sower

Text: Matt 13:3-9

INTRODUCTION

The parable of the sower is about a farmer/ sower who went to sow some seeds. As he was scattering the seeds on the soil, they fell on different places. The seeds fell on four different places: the wayside, stony place, among thorns and on good ground. What happened to the seeds thereafter was determined largely by where they fell, whether the condition of the place was good enough for the growth of the seeds. The seed represents God's Word/ Gospel of Christ. The sower is the one who preaches/ proclaims the Gospel. The sower can also refer to God who is sowing His word in your life. The soil is your heart; the soil upon which the seeds fall. There are different responses to the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. May God's Word find good soil in your heart today in Jesus name.

LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

1. **The seeds that fell by the wayside** – The wayside represents hard ground; there is no soil to receive the seeds, the hard ground by the way side prevents the seeds from sprouting at all. The seeds are just food for the birds. This person hears the word but he is hardened by sin. He does not understand it, and satan plucks the message away, keeping the heart dull and preventing the word from making an impact. Matt 13: 4, 18-19, Jer 18: 12.
2. **The seeds that fell on stony ground** – This location has little soil. The stony ground provides enough soil for the seeds to germinate and begin to grow, but because there is no deepness of earth, there is no root and the seeds soon withered in the sun. This person receives the word of God with joy, he treasures the word for a while but the word is not forming in his life; there is nothing to sustain the growth of the word; his heart is not changed and when challenges come; his faith quickly disappears. S/ he is offended and says; 'This Faith thing does not work'. Matt 13: 20-21, 1Jhn 5:5; Jam 1:6; John 1:12
3. **The seeds that fell among thorns-** The seeds fell among thorns. There was no chance for the seeds to grow at all. They were choked to death by the thorns. This person receives the word but his focus on the cares of the world, the riches and pleasures life are so important in his life, that the word has no place in his life. He has no time for God. S/he is always busy with other things. This person is unfruitful. Matt 13: 22, 1Tim 6:10; Phil 4:19; Heb 13:5
4. **The seeds that fell on good ground:** The good ground has rich soil which is full of nutrients which essential for the growth of the seeds. The good soil receives the seeds and produces much fruits. This person receives the word, understands it, acts upon it, he allows the word to be rooted in his life; the word changes him. S/he is becoming fruitful in Christ. Matt 13: 23, 2 Cor 5:17; Jhn 15: 6-8, Rom 12:2.

CONCLUSION

The Word of God is being sown in your life continually. The question is; What quality of "soil" is your life? Is it full of stones/ thorns? Is the Word falling by the wayside? Is satan plucking the Word in your life? Are cares of life choking the Word? Is your life a good ground to receive God's Word to bring forth good fruits? How do you respond to God's Word? Search your heart; ask God to fumigate your heart and make it receptive to His Word; get rid of the stones and thorns. Sanctify yourselves before the Lord.