

The Parable of the Sower Matthew 13:1-23

Introduction

A Parable is an illustration of a spiritual principle from a common everyday experience.
Why did Jesus teach using Parables? What does the parable of the Sower mean?

Historical Context

Matthew 3, John the Baptist,

vs 1-2 Preaching in the wilderness, *“Repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!”*

Matthew 10, 12 Disciples Sent Out to the entire nation

vs 7 As you go, preach saying, *“The Kingdom of heaven is at hand!”*

The Assessment of that Generation

Matthew 11:16-24 The invitation went out, Sadly, they rejected the offer.

vs 20 Jesus began to reproach the cities in which most of His miracles were done

vs 23-24 even Sodom would have responded to what you have seen

Historical Point: The Kingdom offer made to that generation was rejected

Formal Rejection by the National Leaders

Matthew 12:1-21 Accusations regarding the Sabbath

Matthew 12:22-32 The Messianic Miracle REJECTED, Is 35:4-6

vs 23 the people understand what had just happened,

This man cannot be the Son of David, can he?

Even the Pharisees cannot deny this miracle

So they attribute the Power of the Holy Spirit, to Beelzebul, ruler of demons

This is the ultimate rejection, The Kingdom is no longer offered to that generation

Parables of the Kingdom, First Parable, The Sower

Matthew 13:1-9 Parable of the Sower

vs 3 He spoke many things to them in parables

Four Types of Soil:

- 1) Some seeds fell on _____ ground, beside the road, stolen by birds
- 2) Some seeds fell on _____ ground, not much soil, withered away
- 3) Some seeds fell among _____, choked out
- 4) Some seeds fell on _____ soil, yielded fruit

Matthew 13:10-17 Why do You speak in parables?

Something has changed, Jesus is teaching differently to the crowds

The Consequences of Rejection

vs 11 To you it has been granted, Who? The disciples,
 those who had responded to Jesus
But to them, it has not been granted, Who?
 those who had rejected what Jesus has taught

vs 13 *Therefore I speak to them in parables*

vs 14-15 Explanation from Isaiah 6:9-10

*Principle: Continued rejection of God's revelation,
 results in a heart that becomes _____
 (they will not understand any more spiritual truth)*

The Parable Explained,

Matthew 13:18-23 The Seed is the Word of God, The Soil is the Heart of People

Four Types of Hearts, People:

- 1) The _____ Ground Person, Does not understand, Enemy takes it away
- 2) The _____ Ground Person, Word received with joy, but no firm root
- 3) The _____ Out Person, Worry and deceitfulness of wealth
- 4) The _____ Soil Person, Produces much Fruit

Which Person are You?

1. What Priority do I place on hearing the Word of God?
Do I fend off the deceitfulness of riches?
2. How do I Respond to the teaching of the Word of God?
Do I go back and search the Scriptures to see what it says?
3. What Steps do I take in the course of a normal week...
Do I allow the Word of God to take firm root in my life?
4. What is the Fruit in my life that is evidence of Kingdom Work?

*Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine **and acts on them...***

Matt 7:24-27

Dads,

What is the soil like in your family?
 Are you leading by example?

What are you doing to Prepare the
 Soil of your child's heart?

The Five Dimensions of Discipline

Instruction,	Preventive discipline
Modeling,	Illustrative discipline
Guidance,	Corrective discipline
Rewards,	Persuasive discipline
Punishment,	Consequential discipline