

The Sower and the Seed

Read: Matthew Chapter 13:1-23



The Parable of the Sower

Jesus often spoke in parables when He walked on this earth. A parable is a story that helps listeners to understand a lesson.

A Sower is a farmer. In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus tells a story about a farmer planting seeds.

In this parable, the farmer throws seed into 4 different places. Where the seeds land will determine the growth of the seeds.



The farmer throws seeds onto the ground. Some of the seeds fall onto hard ground and the birds come and eat the seeds.



Some of the seeds fell near some rocks on the ground. These seeds started to grow but since they had no roots to gather water, they soon died.



Other seeds fell on ground with weeds and thorns. As these seeds grew, the thorns took all the sunlight and soon these seeds also stopped growing.



The farmer planted some seeds in the ground where he had prepared the soil. These seeds had soil, roots, sunlight, water and no weeds to stop their growth. These seeds grew into healthy plants.



Jesus explained what the parable meant to the listeners. The seeds represent God's word about heaven and Jesus saving us from sin. Jesus explains that the first seeds that fell on hard ground show us a person who is so filled with sin that he hears about God's saving plan but he doesn't listen or understand.

Jesus tells us that the seeds that fell onto rocky ground are like a person who hears about Jesus but doesn't have "roots" and doesn't grow in his faith. This person will not be strong when rough times happen in his life.



The seeds that grow with the thorns and weeds show us a picture of a person who after hearing about God's plan continue to live a sin filled life and soon the sin takes over the person's life again.

Finally Jesus tells us about the seeds that fall onto good rich soil. These seeds are a picture of a person who hears God's plan of salvation and understands. This person continues to learn about God and grow in his faith. Jesus tells us that this person gets rid of sinful activities in his life and tries his best to obey God. This person will be strong when hard times come along.

What Does It All Mean?

- God loves us and wants to save us.
- God sent Jesus to teach us about heaven and how we can be saved.
- We must have a soft heart to receive God's word - we can't be like the rocky ground.
- To accept God's plan of salvation through Jesus, we can not just hear the word but we must ask Jesus to save us.
- Once we have accepted Jesus Christ as our savior, we must continue to grow in our faith. We should read our Bibles and pray often. It is important to try our best to not sin and to obey.
- If we do all these good things, then we will grow good fruit in our lives. Our seeds will grow strong.