

# IT'S TIME TO BRING FORTH – Part 2

## Isaiah 66:8

**8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.**

Again, we are bringing attention to the phrase “bring forth” in this verse. Also, we said to you that 2024 will be The Year To *Bring Forth*. When the Bible talks about “bringing forth” it’s talking about producing results or bearing *fruit*. Now, there are actually things that will prevent you from being able to produce results or bear fruit. In fact, Jesus gave us a parable explaining *why* so many are unable to bear fruit or produce results.

In [Matthew 13](#), we have what today is called *The Parable of the Sower*. In this parable, Jesus describes how seed is sown upon 4 different types of soil. Now, while these 4 different types of soil produce different results, only ONE soil produces fruit.

## WAY SIDE GROUND

### Matthew 13:19

**19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth *it* not, then cometh the wicked *one*, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.**

The first ground (soil) is described as *way side*. ‘Way side’ ground is really just a *road* or a *beaten path*. It’s fairly obvious why this ground doesn’t produce fruit—it’s too *hard*. The seed cannot penetrate the ground.

This ground represents those who hear the word, but do not *understand* it. Now, the issue is *not* their inability to *grasp* the information. The issue is that they are *rejecting* the information!

### Matthew 13:15

**15 For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.**

The reason men do not understand the truth is because they are refusing to respond to the truth (i.e. through repentance, faith, obedience, etc). Furthermore, when you make a habit of rejecting truth, you become “dull” of hearing. Meaning, you *lose* your ability to understand. (If we don’t use it, we will lose it!)

### **Mark 4:15**

**<sup>15</sup> And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.**

When we don’t *immediately* act on the word we leave the door open for the devil to take away what was sown in our heart. In fact, not only will he take away what was sown in our heart, he will also *replace* it with something else!

### **1 Timothy 4:1–2**

**<sup>1</sup> Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; <sup>2</sup> Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;**

Notice how these “doctrines” from the devil will *sear* (harden) our hearts towards God (the truth)! (The apathy and indifference we see in people is often a byproduct of their rejection of truth.)

## **STONY GROUND**

### **Matthew 13:20–21**

**<sup>20</sup> But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; <sup>21</sup> Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.**

This ground represents people who, when they hear the word, believe and even act on it. However, their believing and acting on the word is *short-lived*. They only do it *for a while*.

The thing we learn from this is that it doesn’t matter all that much how we respond to the word. What matters is how we respond when we are tested? People who faint when they are tested will not produce results (bear fruit).

### **Matthew 13:5**

**<sup>5</sup> Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:**

Here we learn that the reason some endure only for a while is because there's little "earth." Remember, seeds receive their nutrients from the earth. Therefore, in order for seeds to thrive the earth has to *give up something*. (This is a reminder that *deeper* levels of faith require a greater investment!)

### **Matthew 19:20–21**

**<sup>20</sup> The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? <sup>21</sup> Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go *and* sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come *and* follow me.**

Did not Jesus also say, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also?" Thus, there seems to be a connection between our treasure and our heart. The more committed our treasure is, the more committed our heart will be.

Admittedly, making great investments for the kingdom is not easy. It will require *help* from God.

### **Matthew 19:25–26**

**<sup>25</sup> When his disciples heard *it*, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? <sup>26</sup> But Jesus beheld *them*, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.**

Part of the reason we're failing is because we're trying to do it without God.

## **THORNY GROUND**

### **Matthew 13:22**

**<sup>22</sup> He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.**

This ground represents those who have many things in their heart competing and fighting for attention. If we're not careful, the cares of this life will "choke" (overpower) the seed and keep you from being fruitful. Your heart does not have the capacity to support both the things of this world and the things of God!

### **Genesis 13:5–6**

**<sup>5</sup> And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents. <sup>6</sup> And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.**

Notice how the land could not support the flocks of Abram and Lot because they were both GREAT! Similarly, your heart cannot sustain *great* pursuits for God and *great* pursuits for the world.

### **Luke 21:34**

**<sup>34</sup> And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.**

Notice how the cares of this life will not only “overpower” you, they will also “overcharge” you! This was Martha’s issue. She was “overcharged” (or *cumbered*) about by many things, and caused her to miss the “ONE thing” that was needful.

## **GOOD GROUND**

### **Luke 8:15**

**<sup>15</sup> 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.**

Again, this is the ONLY ground that produced results (fruit). The reason it was able to bring forth fruit is because...

- Unlike ‘way side’ ground, they don’t just hear the word, they obey the word.
- Unlike ‘stony’ ground, they don’t just believe for a while, they believe until the end. (They don’t just have faith. They have a *spirit* of faith.)
- Unlike ‘thorny’ ground, they don’t allow their hearts to become overcharged (overstimulated, overly concerned) with cares. They know how to enter God’s rest and unplug!

### **Mark 4:26–27**

**<sup>26</sup> And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; <sup>27</sup> And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.**