

HEAR YE, HEAR YE | LUKE 8:1-21 | PASTOR MARK BOFILL | 10/05/2025

I. Preaching Continues (1-3) | II. Parable of the Sower (4-15) | III. Parable of Reveled Light (16-18) | IV. Proving Right Relationship (19-21)

INTRO: Have you ever heard the phrase "**Hear ye, hear ye?**" What does it mean? It means "**Listen to me!**" or "**Pay attention!**" – It's an archaic call to introduce a public announcement or formal declaration, often associated with **town criers** who used it to **capture the attention of the public**, particularly in medieval times when many people were illiterate. – To parallel that thought, Jesus was sent to introduce the Good News of the Kingdom of God. – In our text, **He Cries Out** for *All to Hear* and *All to Pay Attention*: **HEAR YE, HEAR YE**

I. PREACHING CONTINUES (1-3) – **READ:** *Jesus continued to Preach in Cities* (v.1a) – He brought "*Glad Tidings*" of the Kingdom of God! i.e., that all men could be **Forgiven** and **Saved** (7:50). (*Don't Reject it!*)

A. He was accompanied by The Twelve (1b) – **The Apostles**, Watching and Learning the Way of the Kingdom

B. He was accompanied by Certain Women (2-3) – They believed the Message and the Mission, so they Ministered to the apostolic team from *their own sustenance*. (*Their sacrifice allowed help further kingdom efforts!*)

1. **Mary Magdalene (2)** – Formerly demon-possessed but now devoted to her Lord!
2. **Joanna (3a)** – A woman of prominence, who had palace connections.
3. **Susanna and many others (3b)** – They all found '**The Pearl of Great Price**' (**tt. Matt 13:45-47**) ...

P/A – *Jesus' Preaching contained the Message of the Kingdom of God!* – When the message is heard and Received, **His WAYS are to be followed!** – These heard Jesus preach and followed Him. – [*segway*] **Now** Jesus teaches a **Parable** along with an **Explanation** of How To Understand Kingdom Principles. *He begins with...*

II. PARABLE OF THE SOWER (4-15) – **READ** (4-8): With the emphasis of **the need to hear**, **Jesus Presents a Parable to the large crowd** (4) – During His ministry, **Jesus taught 46 parables**, but **this one is special** because it is spiritual truth, along with the KEY to understand spiritual truths.

A. Presenting the Parable (5-8) – He tells of **three important parts**: The Sower, the Seed, and the Soil.

1. He Tells of Four Types of Soil (5b-8a): **Wayside Ground** (5b), **Rocky Ground** (6), **Thorny Ground** (7), **Good Ground** (8a) –
2. **He Called for People to Hear!** (8b) – **Hear Ye, Hear Ye!** – Listen!... so as to apply it to your own life.

P/A – Does this make sense to you at the first telling of the parable? (*Spiritual things are Spiritually discerned!*)

B. Objective of Parables (9-10) – **READ:** *The disciples inquire of the meaning* (9). – They wanted to understand spiritual things **which is sometimes hard!** – So, Jesus explains Two Methods of Revelation (10)

1. **Chosen to Know (10a)** – God divinely called the disciples to **Hear, Know, Understand**. (*To proclaim later!*)
2. **Choosing to Know (10b)** – Parables Presented in a way which requires a heart for spiritual development – *Jesus does not force conversion on people*. – Because He Respects the Free Will of each person... **Jesus Spoke in PARABLES** so that PEOPLE can CHOOSE to HEAR or NOT!

P/A – Do you desire to Know and Understand the Kingdom of God principles? (*Seek... Draw me nearer Lord!*)

C. Explanation of Parables (11-15) – **READ:** *Jesus expounds on The Meaning of the Parable* (11a), i.e., the Effectiveness of God's Word and its Reception. – In doing so, *He explains that...*

- **The SEED (11b) is the Word of God! (tt. 1 Pet 1:23)**
- **The SOWING is The Distribution of the Word of God;** (*it's sown*) to **"the ones"** who receive it.
- **The SOIL** metaphorically describes the Hearts of men. – **Jesus then Expounds each Soil Type...**

1. WAYSIDE SOIL (12) – **Hearts** which HEAR God's Word **CASUALLY!** – Because they **don't take God's word Seriously, they Don't Respond to it!** – In (Matt 13:19) Jesus explains, **"When anyone hears the Word of the kingdom, and does not understand, then the wicked one comes..."** and like a ravenous bird, Satan immediately swoops down and **snatches away** the seed that was sown in the heart. (*Grk. Harpazo*)

- The Roadside (12a)** – The seed is Exposed (*Satan is aware when the Kingdom message is near*)
- The Devil (12b)** – The seed is Extracted (*Satan works quickly to snatch it away!*) – People never really have a chance to devour the Word because Satan comes **"To Steal, Kill, and Destroy."** (John 10:10)
- The Outcome (12c)** – The seed is Extinguished – The devil does not want people to **Believe in God's Word** so **he removes the seed** before it can be sown in the heart. (*Planted*)

P/A – We must understand that fallen mankind has **Three Things** that oppose your salvation. – All three are mentioned in this parable: **SATAN, SELF,** and the **Seduction of WORLD!** – The **Workings of SATAN** is to keep you from the truth of God! – **He does NOT want you to HEAR to full Gospel Truth,** lest you should come to the saving **"knowledge of the truth."** (1 Tim 2:3-5) – *Does this Soil describe your Heart?*

2. ROCKY SOIL (13) – **Hearts** which HEAR and Receive God's Word **JOYFULLY!** – **They Believe** (*for a while*), but because they have **no deep roots** (*because their Hearts are Stony*) they become **Shallow Christians!**

- They give into Temptation** and **Fall Away** as a result! – (Matt 13:21) says, **these "endure only for a while, for when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they stumble."** (*They Fall Away*)
- Hardships, Tribulation and even Temptation will come at some point in our lives. But true Christians will **PRESS ON** and let the Word of God PRESS IN to our heart, **so it takes root!** – In (Acts 14:21-22), Paul **"Strengthened the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "we must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."** (*Jesus uses "these" to Strengthen our faith! To produce mature fruit!*)

P/A – This is the second thing that opposes your salvation, and it is the Strongest: **The Weakness of SELF:** (*i.e., The Lust of the Flesh, the Lust of the Eyes, and the Pride of Life*) – **On the contrary,** if we have **"...received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, 7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."** (Col 2:6-7) – *Does this Soil describe your Heart?*

3. THORNY SOIL (14) – Those **HEARTS** which HEAR and Receive God's Word **HALF-HEARTEDLY!** – The soil is good, but it is also affected by **Other Things: The Cares, Riches, and Pleasures of this Life!**

- Thorns (14a)** – Metaphorically, they Wrap Around and **Choke Out any potential fruit!**
- These... Go Out (14b)** – Instead of focusing on the spiritual reproduction, they look to other means for fleshly gratification. **The cares, riches, and pleasures of life,** are the very things that make you **FRUITLESS!** James says this happens when one is **"...drawn away by his own desires and enticed ¹⁵Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death..."** (James 1:14-15)
 - "CARES affect those who live in Poverty, RICHES affect those who live in PROSPERITY, and the desire for PLEASURE affects Everybody!"** – Jon Courson – *Does this Soil describe your Heart?*

P/A – The **Way of WORLD** is the third thing that opposes your salvation. – **It's attractive** but we are called **the narrow road** (Matt 7:14) – Be warned that Worldly ways will always **make you Fruitless!**

4. **GOOD SOIL (15)** – **HEARTS** which **HEAR** God's Word and **KEEP IT** are considered **NOBLE/HONORABLE!** **God's Word is Embedded within them** – Jesus specifies **Three Key Terms** that, when fulfilled, serve as **PROOF OF GENUINE SALVATION:**

a. Heard (15a) – These **"LISTEN"** to the Word, which leads to **Understanding** and **Belief** in Jesus Christ. – In (John 8:47a) Jesus said, *"He who is of God hears God's Words..."* – Also (2 Tim 3:1b), *the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.* – Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

b. Keep it (15b) – These **"PAY ATTENTION"** and respond with **OBEDIENCE**. – They **DO NOT** allow **Satan, Self**, or the **Seduction of the World** to reduce the effectiveness of God's Word in their lives. – In (John 14:21a) Jesus said, *He who has My commandments and Keeps Them, it is he who loves Me.* (it's a Responsive love!)

c. Bear Fruit with Patience (15b) – The **FRUIT** mentioned are **good works** which stem from **abiding in Jesus**, (John 15:5b) *"He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit."* – *Does this Soil describe your Heart?*

- **Matthews account** mentions that: **Produced Fruit will be Measured (Matt 13:23b)**, *"...some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."* (Are you a fruitful Christian? Or are you a "for-self" Christian?)
- **All accounts mention the need for PATIENCE!** – When planting a Garden, *a farmer must be patient* (James 5:7). – **The same principle applies SPIRITUALLY:** When God's seed is sown in our HEARTS... its takes **Time**, **Watering** and **Son-Light** before the first **Sprout**. – Then the **Stem**, then the **Branch**... and in due season **RIGHTEOUS FRUIT...LASTING FRUIT... JUICY FRUIT!**
- As a Sower, we too can plant seeds for God's Kingdom. – **But all too often we become IMPATIENT, expecting immediate results.** – **We sow the seed**, but we don't allow the time! **And so, we give up ...** *"I prayed every day this week and nothing happened", "I gave up such and such and nothing has changed!"*
- **BE PATIENT!** – If your heart is **GOOD SOIL**, then the **HOLY SPIRIT** will supernaturally produce the **Good Fruit, Abundant Fruit... Juicy Fruit** in your life!
 - Those among **the Roadside** are **Exposed** to the Word, **but it's Stolen away**
 - Those among **Stony places** are **Excited** about the Word, **but they Fall away!**
 - Those among **Thorns** are **Engrossed** with the Word, but **Choked** by the world, bearing **Fruitless ways!**

P/A – **The Parable of the Sower makes people think, "What kind of soil am I?"** – It challenges each listener to nurture the soil of their heart, so that **God's message has the greatest impact** on their lives.

III. PARABLE OF REVEALED LIGHT (16-18) – **READ:** Jesus provides this Parable to teach on the Hearer's RESPONSIBILITY to the Word. – *If we have heard it, then we need to...*

A. Proclaim it Openly (16-17) – Remember the old children's song, **'This Little Light of Mine?'** – It goes on to say... **Hide it under a bushel... NO! ... I'M GONNA LET IT SHINE!** – If you have the **Truth of God**, you have **a sacred obligation to share His message in any way God provides you the chance!**

1. Light Displayed (16) – **A LAMP** is **only a holder**, but **the LIGHT** is what needs to be seen! – In ancient times, Lamps sat in or on a place where the Light is clearly seen. – **The Light is the Gospel (cf. 2 Cor 4:4).**

2. Light Reveals (17) – Jesus says **there is Nothing Secret**. **Sooner or later the secrets we thought we could keep** are brought out in the open. – God will **expose them** for everyone to see at the judgment to come.

- **And so, with our Christian faith**, it is **NOT** some private or hidden thing... **it is designed to be Open, Public, and Bright.** – In fact, **True Christians SHINE like Jesus in this dark world.**
- **What sort of things would God have you bring** *"out into the open?"* (Expose it or be exposed!)

B. Practice it Faithfully (18) – Now Jesus speaks of **ACCOUNTABILITY** to the Word. He says... **“Take heed how you hear!”** – When we Truly Hear the Word of God, and receive it with gladness, **more will be given to us from God’s spiritual riches.** – But many people assume spiritual enlightenment (*like the Pharisees*), who were **“seemingly”** rich spiritually. – But like the **Church of Laodicea**, they do **“Not Know that they were wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.”** – Jesus makes clear that *even what these seem to have* will be **TAKEN AWAY!**

P/A – HEAR YE, HEAR YE Church! Jesus wants each of us to have Fertile Hearts **to receive the seed.** But He also want us to be a **Sower of seeds.** – The fruit of sharing the Gospel doesn’t just happen on its own. It takes a humble heart and meditation on the Word of God **to produce a good harvest** and to further the Kingdom of God. (*Shine your Light!*)

IV.PROOF OF RIGHT RELATIONSHIP (19-21) – **READ:** *As this circumstance arises,* Jesus uses it to emphasize the point that He had already been making: i.e., **Hearing and Following Jesus' Word** demonstrates our Right Relationship with Him.

A. Petitioning Jesus (19-20) – Jesus’ Mother **already believed in Jesus**, but His half-brothers **failed to believe in Him** at this point, (*cf. John 7:3-5; Mark 3:21*). They used their special privilege card to access Jesus!

B. Proclamation of Jesus (21) – *“My [REAL] mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it.”* – Whoa! **Jesus’ answer to the messengers** could be interpreted as **offensive** to some! (*disrespectful*). –

- But we must understand that **He wasn’t being RUDE**, but rather **SPIRITUAL!**
- **Jesus always prioritized the Spiritual first** because **Kingdom laws [and relationships] are spiritual.** This does not means that He didn’t allow them access, but He wanted the messengers and those around Him **to know what validates a Right Relationship... *Hearing and Doing the Word of God!***

CLOSING THOUGHTS: And so, Jesus’ teaching in this section emphasized **HEARING!** – **HEAR YE, HEAR YE...**

Four questions bases on the four points:

1. Are you one who follows Jesus? *Offering Him you time and resources.*
2. What is the Condition of your Heart? *Is it Fertile or is it a Fault-line!*
3. How do you respond to the Light? *Do you Show it or Blow it out?*
4. Is your relationship with Jesus questionable... *or is it Spiritual?*

(2 Cor 9:10) Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness!