

# RIDDLES

Christian Center Church  
Wednesday, October 11  
7:00 PM

Part 2

Unlocking the mysteries of God's Kingdom  
through the parables of Jesus

**The objective of this study: How does Jesus want me to live as an ambassador to His Kingdom?**

Matthew 13:3

And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

Matthew 13:4

And when he sowed, some [seeds] fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

- Jesus was more concerned about the soil than He was the seed
- Because without the right soil – the seed can never grow

Matthew 13:5-6

Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

- Jesus calls the second kind of soil stony or rocky
- In Palestine there are large plates of limestone rock that lie beneath the surface and beneath the plow

Matthew 13:7

And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:

- The seed has to be alone in the soil if it is going to be fruitful and grow

Matthew 13:8

But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.

Matthew 13:9

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

- There are only three components– the sower – the seed and the soil

Matthew 13:37

He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

Matthew 13:19-20

When any one heareth the word of the kingdom

- The greatest desire of Jesus is for His people to receive the Word of God into their hearts in such a way that it will produce the fruits of the Kingdom of God on this earth

John 15:16

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

- This world will never believe what they cannot see – therefore for them to believe the Kingdom of God they must see it in our lives
- There is nothing more spiritually productive in your life than the Word of God
- No matter how perfect or how powerful both the seed and the sower are – it is the soil that makes the difference over whether anything is produced
- The Seed and the Sower remain the same – it is the soil that varies

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

Isaiah 40:8

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Matthew 13:9

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

## The Hardened Heart

Matthew 13:19

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. ... 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 unprepared heart is one that has been trodden down and become hardened through doubt – fear and unbelief

## The Shallow Heart

Matthew 13:20

But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;

- Enthusiasm is not the same as commitment
- The enthusiastic but uncommitted person will never make it through the difficult times of life

21 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.

## The Thorny Heart

Matthew 13:22

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.

- Weeds are indigenous to the soil – the seed is foreign to the soil
- Your natural heart is more accustomed to the cares of life than it is to the Word of God
- In your life you must be careful that the cares of life do not choke out the Word of God

Matthew 6:31

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

- Faith and fear cannot coexist in your heart
- The word “choke” literally means to suffocate

Matthew 13:23

But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth [it]; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Hebrews 13:15

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of [our] lips giving thanks to his name.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Matthew 13:23

But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth [it]; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.