



## Tales from the Master Story Teller The Parables of Jesus

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### The Parable of the Seed and the Soils “A Story for Those Confronted with the Good News”

Luke 8:1-15

July 21, 2019

Dr. Mark Strauss

**Theme:** Parables were Jesus’ most distinctive form of teaching and he used them to great effect. In one of his most famous parables, Jesus uses a farming metaphor to describe various responses to his announcement of the kingdom of God. For those who receive his Word with an open heart, the message produces great fruit. For others, the message falls on deaf ears and no fruit is produced. Jesus calls us to respond with faith to the message of the gospel.

#### **Outline:**

##### 1. Introduction to the Parables of Jesus

- a. What is a parable?
- b. The purpose of parables:
  - To illustrate spiritual truth
  - To reveal and to conceal vv. 9–10
- c. How to read a parable

- In the context of Jesus' ministry
- In light of the kingdom of God
- Seeking the central point

## 2. The Context, vv. 1-4

- a. Preaching the kingdom throughout Galilee
- b. Accompanied by "the Twelve"
- c. Accompanied by women supporters
- d. Crowds following Jesus

## 3. The Parable and Its Interpretation, vv. 5–8, 11–15

### a. Causes of Spiritual Failure

- Seed on the Path (vv. 5, 12): The danger of spiritual blindness
- Seed on Rocky Soil (vv. 6, 13): The danger of lacking spiritual roots
- Seed among Thorns (vv. 7, 14): The danger of spiritual distraction

### b. Keys to Spiritual Success

- Hearing the Word with an honest and sincere heart
- Holding fast to the Word and persevering to the end

**Takeaway:** Receiving the good news of salvation is by faith alone, but requires an honest heart and a desire to persevere.

### **Next Cove:**

Date: July 28, 2019

Title: The parable of the good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37