



PLANT SEQUOIAS?


PSALM 78:1-8 NLT

A psalm of Asaph.

- 1 O my people, listen to my instructions.
Open your ears to what I am saying,
- 2 for I will speak to you in a parable.
I will teach you hidden lessons from our past—
- 3 stories we have heard and known,
stories our ancestors handed down to us.
- 4 We will not hide these truths from our children;
we will tell the next generation
about the glorious deeds of the LORD,
about his power and his mighty wonders.

PSALM 78:1-8 NLT

- ⁵ For he issued his laws to Jacob;
he gave his instructions to Israel.
He commanded our ancestors
to teach them to their children,
⁶ so the next generation might know them—
even the children not yet born—
and they in turn will teach their own children.
⁷ So each generation should set its hope anew on God,
not forgetting his glorious miracles
and obeying his commands.
⁸ Then they will not be like their ancestors—
stubborn, rebellious, and unfaithful,
refusing to give their hearts to God.



*Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.*

From Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front by Wendell Berry

ROOTS & SOIL

MARK 4:3-8 NLT

³“Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. ⁴As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it. ⁵Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. ⁶But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn’t have deep roots, it died. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain. ⁸Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they sprouted, grew, and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted!”

ROOTS & SOIL

MARK 4:3-8 NLT

- Footpath = those who hear the message, but are quickly snatched away by the lies of the enemy
- Rocky soil = those who respond with distracted joy, and fall away in the face of resistance
- Thorns = those crowded by worries, fears, the allure of wealth and fame, bearing little fruit
- Fertile soil = true disciples who really hear God's Word, who are willing to change and grow, who continue to bear good fruit

ROOTS & SOIL

FRUIT NOT CONNECTED TO ITS
ROOT HAS A LIMITED SHELF LIFE
AND ROTS QUICKLY.

NO ROOT = QUICK ROT

MAY THE DAILY FRUIT OF MY LIFE
BE EVIDENCE OF THE ROOT OF MY
SOUL - THE LOVE OF CHRIST.

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REFINED BY FIRE

1 PETER 1:5-7 CSB

⁵You are being guarded by God's power through faith for a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶You rejoice in this, even though now for a short time, if necessary, you suffer grief in various trials ⁷so that the proven character of your faith—more valuable than gold which, though perishable, is refined by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Refined – from the Greek “dokimázō” (dok-im-ad’-zo); to see whether a thing is genuine or not, as metals

REFINED BY FIRE

PROVERBS 17:3 AMPC

³The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tries the hearts.

Tries the hearts – from the Hebrew “bâchan” (baw-khan'); to test, prove, try (of gold, persons, the heart, man of God)

FAITH IN THE PROMISE

HEBREWS 6:13-15 ESV

The Certainty of God's Promise

¹³For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, ¹⁴saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” ¹⁵And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

Patiently waited – from the Greek “makrothyméō” (mak-roth-oo-meh'-o); to be of a long spirit, not to lose heart

PLANT SEQUOIAS?

*So shall I plant sequoias
And revel in the soil
Of a crop I know I'll never live to reap?*

*Then sow my body to my Maker
And my heart unto my savior
And spread me on the road, the rocks, and
the weeds*

From *The Road, The Rocks, and The Weeds* by John Mark McMillan



PLANT SEQUOIAS