THE CONDITION OF OUR HEARTS

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Philadelphia Church

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1 CORINTHIANS 12:7-11 NKJV

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He

GOD CAN GIVE US

- 1. Wisdom by speaking to us.
- 2. Knowledge by speaking to us.
- 3. Prophecies by speaking to us.
- 4. Tongues by speaking to and through us.
- 5. Interpretation of tongues by speaking to and through us.
- 6. The ability to discern spirits by speaking to us.

MATTHEW 13:1-9 NKJV

On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. 2 And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. 3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

MATTHEW 13:1-9 NKJV

But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. 8 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

PARABLE

 laying one thing alongside another or a parallel comparison.

ALONG THE PATH

Matthew 13:3-4

Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them

ROCKY PLACES

Matthew 13:5-6

Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. 6 But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

AMONG THORNS

Matthew 13:7

And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

ON GOOD SOIL

Matthew 13:8

But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

MATTHEW 13:9 NKJV

He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"



MATTHEW 13:9-17 NKJV

He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" 10 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" 11 He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

MATTHEW 13:9-17 NKJV

Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. 14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; 15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'

MATTHEW 13:9-17 NKJV

But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; 17 for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

HEBREWS 11:1 NKJV

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets;

QUOTE

He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose.

- J. E.

THE SEED

The Word of God or the Good News.

MATTHEW 13:18-23 NKJV

"Therefore hear the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. 20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

MATTHEW 13:18-23 NKJV

yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. 22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. 23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

BIRDS

In this parable they represent the enemy that comes to snatch the Word or Seed away.

OBSTACLE 1 (HARD PATH AND BIRDS)

Satan or the demonic

2 CORINTHIANS 4:4 NKJV

whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

1. PETER 5:8 NKJV

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

OBSTACLE 2 (ROCKY GROUND)

False understanding of faith

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7 NKJV

As you therefore 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.

OBSTACLE 3 (THORNS)

Focus on the things of this world

WORLDLY FOCUSES

- 1. The worries of this life
- 2. Deceitfulness of wealth

MATTHEW 6:21 NKJV

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

PROVERBS 30:8-9 NKJV

Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches—Feed me with the food allotted to me; 9 Lest I be full and deny You, And say, "Who is the Lord?" Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.

THE GOOD SOIL

Represents the maturing or growing believer.

QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the true condition of my heart?
- 2. What "soil" represents best where I am today?

QUOTE

God sees hearts as we see faces.

- G.H.