PARABLES OF JESUS

- Among the most familiar of the Lord's parables is the parable of the sower.
- It is found in three of the gospels. (Matthew, Mark, and Luke)
- The parable illustrates how different hearts respond to God's word.
- Every person can find themselves somewhere in this parable!

• See Matthew 13:1-9.

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• Seed (vs. 4)

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- The Sower (vs. 3)
- The Soils (vss. 4-8)

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- Other seed fell on the stony ground. It grew, but it didn't do well because the hot sun killed the plant.
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- Some fell on good ground. It grew very well and produced a crop.

• See Matthew 13:18-23.

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• The seed is the word of God Matthew 13:19; Luke 8:11).

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• The soils are people's hearts.

 The Wayside Heart – Those who never take God's word seriously (vs. 19).

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- The Rocky Heart Those who receive God's word joyfully, but due to trials, they fall away (vss. 20-21).

"Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God." - Hebrews 3:12

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"You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace."

- Galatians 5:4

- "For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first."
 - 2 Peter 2:20

"Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified."

- 1 Corinthians 9:26-27

- The Wayside Heart Those who never take God's word seriously (vs. 19).
- The Rocky Heart Those who receive God's word joyfully, but due to trials, they fall away (vss. 20-21).
- The Thorny Heart Those who receive God's word, but the cares of the world choked it out. They are unfruitful (vs. 23).

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- Most assume that this person falls away.
- The text does not say that!
- While this person does not please God, Jesus never says that he falls away.

"And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful."

- Matthew 13:22

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- This is the only person who is commended by Jesus (vs. 23).
- This person not only hears God word, but he also bears fruit.
- This is the only person that is saved in the parable.

"My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples."

- John 15:8

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"but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

- 2 Peter 3:18

"but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,"

- Ephesians 4:15

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- We make choices as to whether we will be the wayside soil, the stony ground, the ground filled with thorns, or the good ground.
- Only the person with the good heart will be saved in the end.
- What kind of heart do you have?

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