

“A Sower Went Forth To Sow”
Matthew 13:1-9

Introduction: Why did God leave the Christian on the earth after salvation? The simple answer to this question is found in Matthew 28:19-20. It is wrapped up in one word, “go”. The reason saints are on the earth is so that they can tell others about the good news from glory. God has given the church the obligation to reach this world with the Scriptures. Jesus stresses this important task in Matthew 13 in the parable of the sower. Notice how His message is disguised to the sinner and unfolded to the saint.

1. The Movement v. 1- “out of the house...by the sea side”
2. The Multitudes v. 2- “great multitudes were gathered together”
3. The Message v. 3- “he spake many things unto them in parables”
 - a. The Mystery vs. 10-11, 16-17 “given unto you to know the mysteries”
 - b. The Misunderstanding vs. 13-15
 - (1) In Speech vs. 13- “speak I to them in parables”
 - (2) In Sight v. 14- “seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive”
 - (3) In Senses v. 15
 - (a) Heart- “heart is waxed gross”
 - (b) Ears- “ears are dull of hearing”
 - (c) Eyes- “their eyes they have closed”

Body: In this parable, there are three characters depicted. The Sower represents the servant of God that is laboring in the field. Scriptures typify the seed and the heart of man is seen in the ground. This shows the believer what he is to expect during his mission of fulfilling the great command. Although none may receive the Word, we should still sow as we go. Observe how this parable unfolds in this great lesson on soul winning.

- I. The Sower—Servant I Corinthians 3:5-9
 - A. Their Burden Psalms 126:5- “They that sow in tears”
 1. A Burden to Depart Mark 4:3- “there went out a sower to sow”
 2. A Burden to Deliver Mark 4:14- “The sower soweth the word”
 - B. Their Bringing Psalms 126:6- “bearing precious seed”
 1. Way Side Matthew 13:4- “some *seeds* fell by the way side”
 2. Stony Places Matthew 13:5- “Some fell upon stony places”
 3. Thorns Matthew 13:7- “some fell among thorns”
 4. Good Ground Matthew 13:8- “other fell into good ground”
- II. The Seed—Scriptures Luke 8:11- “The seed is the word of God”
 - A. Precious Seed Psalms 126:6- “bearing precious seed”
 - B. Perfect Seed I Peter 1:23- “incorruptible”
 - C. Preserved Seed I Peter 1:25- “the word of the Lord endureth for ever”
 - D. Powerful Seed Isaiah 40:8- “the word of our God shall stand for ever”
- III. The Soil—Sinner Matthew 13:38- “The field is the world”

- A. Hard Heart—Way Side Matthew 13:4, 19
 - 1. The Street Luke 18:5- “it was trodden down”
 - 2. The Snatch
 - a. By the Wicked One Matthew 13:19- “catcheth away”
 - b. By Satan Mark 4:15- “taketh away”
 - (1) Why does Satan try to steal the seed? Luke 8:12
 - (2) Keep in mind that the seed is in danger unless it is hid. Psalm 119:11
 - c. By Fowls Luke 8:5- “devoured it”
- B. Haphazard Heart—Stony Place Matthew 13:5-6, 20-21
 - 1. The Scarcity Matthew 13:5- “they had not much earth”
 - 2. The Springing Matthew 13:5- “they sprung up” v. 20
 - 3. The Sun
 - a. Tribulation Matthew 13:21- “tribulation or persecution ariseth”
 - b. Troubled Mark 4:17- “immediately they are offended”
 - c. Temptation Luke 8:13- “in time of temptation fall away”
- C. Half Heart—Thorns Matthew 13:7, 22
 - 1. The Cares Matthew 13:22- “the care of this world”
 - 2. The Choking Matthew 13:22- “choke the word”
 - 3. The Ceasing Matthew 13:22- “he becometh unfruitful”
- D. Healthy Heart—Good Ground Matthew 13:8, 23
 - 1. The Perception Matthew 13:23- “heareth...and understandeth”
 - a. Because they Receive Mark 4:20- “and receive *it*”
 - b. Because they Retain Luke 8:15- “keep *it*”
 - 2. The Production Matthew 13:8, 23

Conclusion: Christians should never forget their most important assignment of sowing the seed. We must be doers of the Word, and not merely hearers only. Keep in mind that our labor is not in vain. One of the greatest delights to a sower is seeing the one that they witnessed to saved and becoming fruitful.