

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1324

June 21, 2020

Matthew 13:18, “*Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.*”

In Matthew 13 Jesus told the parable of the sower. Many of us have lived in times and an area where we plant crops and grow gardens. Attending a rural high school, I had classes that taught us about soil and how to check what the soil needs in the way of nutrients to properly grow crops. Jesus shows us the type of spiritual soils and how the word of God will grow or fail to grow in certain soils.

1. **Wayside soil.** Matthew 13:19, “*When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth [it] not, then cometh the wicked [one], and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.*” This is the only soil where the seed never takes root.

How sad it is to hear the word of God, but to never act upon it and obey the words therein. There are many who hear portions of the Bible and maybe some who have heard all or most of it, but yet the words thereof fall by the wayside. Jesus says that the wicked one comes and catches away that which was sown.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

The devil will do all he can to keep people from obeying the word of God. When one does hear the Word, the devil will employ every effort available to keep people from obeying. He will present them with every possible reason not to obey. People may not obey because of family, worldly ambitions, or even plan to obey, but put it off.

We see this in Acts 24:25. In Felix responding to the preaching of Paul we are told, “*Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.*” The most convenient season one has is this very moment. Do not let the word of God fall by the wayside and never germinate.

2. **Stony soil.** Matthew 13:20-21, “<sup>20</sup>*But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; <sup>21</sup>Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.*” This is the first soil where the seed germinates and begins to grow.

One receives the word and obeys it and is even joyful. Yet, there is no root. Any plant with no root can only survive a little while. The stones would keep the root from reaching any good soil. This person lets the stones of life like tribulation and persecution keep them from ever growing in the word and becoming stronger. Many of my summers were spent picking up rocks from fields. We did this to give the crops better soil in which to grow. Let’s pick up all the spiritual rocks we can, and rid our lives of them to let the word of God grow.

3. **Thorny ground.** Matthew 13:22, “*He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.*” This person receives the word in thorny ground. There are many vines that grow which have thorns on them. They can even look beautiful, but if left to grow among good crops,

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# News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Jean Coffey, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Shirley Edwards, Clay Bozarth, Vicki McDaniel, and Louise Greer.** Remember **Archie & Judy Manning.**

—Congratulations to our 2020 graduates. **Ben Edwards** graduated from Western Kentucky University and will be teaching in Vine Grove this Fall. **Ali Rose Duncan** graduated from Hart County High School. She will be attending the University of Kentucky.

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they will choke them out. Such thorny plants growing up among good crops would prevent caretakers from getting to them. They will also steal nutrients.

Such spiritual thorns are the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches. If we are not careful, we can let the cares of this world such as school, jobs, and recreation choke out the world. It's interesting that Jesus refers to the "deceitfulness of riches." Riches deceive people. They will spend a lifetime pursuing riches, but they are full of "thorns" and will choke out the word. Even if we had all the riches this world offers, nothing of this world is worth our everlasting soul.

4. **Good soil.** Matthew 18:23, "*But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth [it]; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*" The good soil will bear fruit. Not everyone bears the same amount. We are to do what we are capable of doing.

Even on a farm, some fields will produce better than others. But we can increase the yield on a farm by fertilizer and other methods. In the same way, with prayer and study, we can increase the yields in our spiritual soil.

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Sunday, June 14, 2020		
Classes	--	--
Preaching	24	
Contribution	\$822.00	
Evening	--	Nehemiah 9:1-38
Wednesday, June 17, 2020		
Classes	--	Isaiah 34:1-17

Visitors— June 14 (AM) Layne Harrison (Louisville, KY)

## Bible Quiz

The LORD brought forth water out of what?

Last Week's Answer— Zion (Isaiah 33:5)

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If we find ourselves not producing for the LORD the way we should, let's take a "soil sample" and see what is lacking. It might be our praying, study, attendance, giving, etc. If we find anything lacking, let's apply that to our spiritual soil and increase our production for the LORD.

—Marty Edwards❖

## —God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)