



Part 41: Sower, Seeds and Soil
Matthew 13:1-23

The Text: Parable of the Sower

- Context For Matthew 13:

“...parables both conceal and reveal the kingdom of heaven—all at the same time. They not only conceal/reveal the meaning of the kingdom but also the identity of the hearer.” – Dr. Rodney Reeves

- Two lenses:

“This story centers not on the Sower or the seed but on the four kinds of soil. It is clear that everyone reacts to the kingdom teaching (the seed) presented by Jesus (the Sower); the soils represent the receptivity of the differing groups to Jesus’ proclamation. They do react in different ways, but there is no neutrality; no one can remain outside the convicting power of God’s truth.” – Dr. Grant Osborne

- Types of Soils

I. The Parable of the Soils

Matthew 13:1-9

- A. The setting (verses 1-2)
- B. The parable (verses 3-9)
- C. The warning to listen carefully (verse 9)

II. The Purpose of the Parables

Matthew 13:10-17

- A. The question about parables (verse 10)
- B. Answer 1: The difference between insiders and outsiders
- C. Answer 2: God's punishment for their guilt

III. The Interpretation of the Parable

Matthew 13:18-23

- A. Meaning of the seed on the path (verse 19)
- B. Meaning of the seed sown on stony soil (verses 20-21)
- C. Meaning of the seed sown on thorny soil (verse 22)
- D. Meaning of the seed sown on good soil (verse 23)

- The confusion of the crowd

- The explanation to the disciples

Which type of soil are you?

Big Idea: The good harvest of the gospel comes with great cost and reward.

Story of Henrietta Mears

Applying the Text

- Do you have a vision for what good soil looks like in your life?

- The need for refining fire

“The true disciple does not allow the concerns of life to have precedence over following Jesus.”
– Dr. Grant Osborne

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