

Jesus' Parable of The Sower

Lesson 4

The Sower, The Seed And The Unfruitful Soil Among The Thorns

An Introduction To Jesus' Parables

- A parable is an earthly story designed to teach a spiritual lesson through a comparison
- Jesus taught parables to separate hardened hearts from humble and honest hearts

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Introduction

- In His parable of the sower, Jesus reveals the power of the Word of God to change human hearts
- But, the Word of God can be prevented from changing our hearts if we choose to sinfully react toward it
- We study this parable so we may overcome rebellion to His Word by humbly receiving and obeying it so we may be saved

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The Sower, The Seed And The Soil Among The Thorns

Jesus speaks the parable of the sower
The sower and the seed explained
The soil among the thorns explained

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Jesus Speaks The Parable Of The Sower

Luk 8:5 "The sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and it was trampled under foot and the birds of the air ate it up.

Mat 13:5 "Others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil.

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Jesus Speaks The Parable Of The Sower

Mat 13:6 "But when the sun had risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

Mar 4:7 "Other *seed* fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it yielded no crop.

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Jesus Speaks The Parable Of The Sower

Mar 4:8 "Other *seeds* fell into the good soil, and as they grew up and increased, they yielded a crop and produced thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

Mar 4:9 And He was saying, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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The Sower And The Seed Explained

The sower is not specifically identified in this parable

Luk 8:11 "Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God.

Mat 13:19 "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it,...

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The Soil Among The Thorns Explained

Mar 4:7 "Other *seed* fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it yielded no crop.

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The Soil Among The Thorns Explained

- Some soil was plagued by destructive thorns
- Any seed falling in this soil would grow but would not bear fruit
- The competing destructive thorns would choke it out

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The Soil Among The Thorns Explained

Mat 13:22 "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.

Luk 8:14 "The *seed* which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

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The Soil Among The Thorns Explained

- This soil represents the distracted heart that hears the Word, accepts it, but their faith becomes unfruitful
- They have no time to grow spiritually, encourage the saved and reach the lost
- Their time is consumed by the
 - Worry of the world
 - Deceitfulness of wealth
 - Pleasures of this life

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Worldly Worry Distracts Us From Serving Christ

Mat 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

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Worldly Worry Distracts Us From Serving Christ

Mat 6:25 "For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as *to* what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as *to* what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Mat 6:32 "For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

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Worldly Worry Distracts Us From Serving Christ

Luk 10:38 Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.

Luk 10:39 She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word.

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Worldly Worry Distracts Us From Serving Christ

Luk 10:40 But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up *to Him* and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me."

Luk 10:41 But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things;

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Worldly Worry Distracts Us From Serving Christ

Luk 10:42 but *only* one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

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Deceitful Wealth Distracts Us From Serving Christ

1Ti 6:9 But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.

1Ti 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

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Deceitful Wealth Distracts Us From Serving Christ

Mar 10:21 Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

Mar 10:22 But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.

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Worldly Pleasures Distract Us From Serving Christ

Gal 5:17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

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Worldly Pleasures Distract Us From Serving Christ

Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

Gal 5:21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

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Overcoming These Thorns that Choke Our Faith

- Overcome worry by making the Lord our first priority and praying to Him about all our cares
- Overcome deceitful wealth by being content with what we have, pursue God's will and be generous with material blessings
- Overcome worldly pleasures by denying ourselves and filling our minds with His Word that our conduct may please Him

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Overcoming Worldly Worry

Mat 6:33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Mat 6:34 "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

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Overcoming Worldly Worry

Php 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Php 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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Overcoming Deceitful Wealth

1Ti 6:6 But godliness *actually* is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment.

1Ti 6:7 For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

1Ti 6:8 If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

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Overcoming Deceitful Wealth

1Ti 6:11 But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance *and* gentleness.

1Ti 6:17 Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

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Overcoming Deceitful Wealth

1Ti 6:18 *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,

1Ti 6:19 storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

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Overcoming Worldly Pleasures

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Gal 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

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Overcoming Worldly Pleasures

Rom 6:11 Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

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Overcoming Worldly Pleasures

Rom 6:13 and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

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Overcoming Worldly Pleasures

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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