

THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS
JESUS SERIES
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Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23; Mark 4:1-8, 14-20; Luke 8:4-8, 12-15
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Copies of today's sermon, blogs, devotional studies, pod casts and an archive of sermons are available this afternoon on the internet at www.lifefaitfusion and at www.casaschurch.org.

According to Jesus the Kingdom of God is the one thing in life worth sacrificing everything to obtain. Fortunately, we don't have to wait. We can experience the Kingdom of God right now.

The Kingdom of Heaven is like:

Matthew 13:24-25; Matthew 13:31; Matthew 13:33; Matthew 13:47; Matthew 13:44-45

The opening of the Kingdom parables is often referred to as the Parable of the Soils. This parable describes the responses of individuals to the message of the Christ during the time between His first and second comings when the Kingdom is carried on in its mystery form in the hearts of men and women.

Whatever this Kingdom is, you really want to live in it.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS ANYWHERE WHERE THE SPHERE OF CHRIST'S INFLUENCE IS SEEN AND FELT.

John 18:36-37

Luke 17:20-21

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done" is not just a prayer for the future. It is a request for the Kingdom to come in our lives in the here and now.

Colossians 1:27

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER SHOWS US HOW THE KINGDOM COMES INTO THE HUMAN HEART—OR NOT!

Matthew 13:1-9

THE SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD (MATTHEW 13:3; LUKE 8:11-12).

Matthew 13:3

Luke 8:11-12

Too many people want a special personal message from God before they will believe. He has already spoken—right here in the Bible. The key is how we respond to it.

1 Peter 1:23

THE SOWER IS THE LORD JESUS—OR ANYONE WHO IS SHARING THE WORD OF GOD.

Matthew 13:3

We have the world at our doorstep. We have the Word of God in our hands. We have a glorious opportunity of planting seed in hearts all around us.

Our responsibility is not to produce a harvest. Our responsibility is to faithfully spread the seed as far and wide as we are able.

It often takes a long time before an acorn becomes an oak; and it may take a long time before the seed germinates in the hearts of a men and women.

THE FOUR TYPES OF SOIL REPRESENT FOUR RESPONSES TO THE WORD OF GOD.

Matthew 13:18-23

Jesus clarified the four responses to the Word of God we can expect to encounter: the unresponsive, the shallow, the distracted, and the receptive fruit producer.

THE PATHWAY SOIL IS THE HEARER WHO IS NOT INTERESTED BECAUSE OF SATANIC DECEPTION.

Matthew 13:18-19

Luke 8:11-12

2 Corinthians 4:4

THE ROCKY SOIL IS THE SHALLOW PROFESSOR WHO WILTS WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH.

Matthew 13:5-6

Matthew 13:20-21

THE THORN-INFESTED SOIL IS THE DISTRACTED PROFESSOR WHO HARDLY MISSES WHEN THE WORD OF GOD IS CHOKED OUT OF HIS LIFE.

Matthew 13:21-22

Weeds are the things that ruin the Kingdom of God in our lives.

What do weeds look like (1 John 2:15-17)?

THE GOOD SOIL IS THE FRUIT-PRODUCING PROFESSOR WHO IS FILLED WITH THE PERSON OF CHRIST HIMSELF.

Matthew 13:21-23

What will the kingdom look like in our lives? How will we know we are in the kingdom? The answer lies in the amount and type of fruit we produce.

Three types of fruit are mentioned in the Bible:

The Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

The Fruit of Righteous Behavior (Philippians 1:11)

The Fruit of New Converts (Romans 1:13; John 15:8)

COULD IT BE THAT ONLY ONE OF EVERY THREE PERSONS WHO PROFESSES FAITH IN CHRIST IS REALLY A CHRISTIAN?

The only one of these four hearts which is genuinely Christian is the fourth one.

We can taste something and spit it out without fully committing ourselves to it. But, when we swallow, we are fully committed (Hebrews 6:4-6).

Salvation is seen when the fruit appears.