

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

WHAT KIND OF SOIL ARE YOU?

RLJ-1152

CHARLES THORELL

SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

TAKING CARE OF YOUR FIELD

- You have received a commission. **Matthew 28:18-20**
- God has invested in you. **Matthew 25:14**
- You need to take that investment and make it grow. **verses 15-30**

DIFFERENT KINDS OF PEOPLE

According to Jesus, there are four kinds of people (soil) in the world who receive the Word of God. **Matthew 13:1-18**

HARD SOIL

- This ground has not been plowed, it is hard and there is no opportunity for the seed to sink into the earth. **verses 19**
- This person hears the message that Jesus saves but takes it lightly; they are careless, inattentive, negligent and forgetful. They let the Devil fill their mind with thoughts of other things.

ROCKY SOIL

- This ground is strewn with more rocks than soil and the fresh roots are impeded by the rocks. The baby plant withers because of the inadequate root system when the sun comes out. **verses 20-21**
- This person is affected by the Gospel and endures for a time, but when something comes along that causes them to stumble, their good desires wither away, and they take the path of least resistance.

THORNY SOIL

- This ground has not been fully cleared of weeds. The good seed is choked as it competes with the older and stronger weeds. **verse 22**
- This person gladly accepts the Gospel but their priority is dealing with day-to-day activities and making money. Eventually they lose sight of the Gospel and get preoccupied with other things and become unfruitful.

GOOD SOIL

- This ground is ready for seed because it has been plowed, the rocks are gone and the weeds have been removed. The seed that is planted here flourishes under the sun. **verse 23**



- This person hears the Word, understands it and applies it. Even so, all people do not yield the same amount of fruit. Everyone is capable of 100% but most settle for less.

THE SOWER & HIS SEED

It's not the sower's (Jesus) lack of skill or bad seed (the Gospel message) that causes people to react poorly; they fail because they are careless, inattentive, and carnally minded.

SATAN'S STRATEGY

Satan doesn't want you to be productive; he wins a great victory if he can cancel out the Word of God in your life. It is powerful (Hebrews 4:12) and can't be destroyed but the Devil can stop it from taking root. If he fails in this, he will try and keep you from growing in faith, by keeping you from comprehending and applying the Word of God in your daily life. He will try and have you focus on your problems, hurts, worries and even the good things so that you won't be productive in the Kingdom of God.

WHAT SATAN WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN YOU

- Take your God-given talent and waste it.
- Ride on somebody else's relationship with the Lord; don't develop your own.
- Never read the Bible. If you do, don't take God's instructions seriously.
- Don't communicate with God and ask Him for guidance.
- Ignore the Holy Spirit when He speaks to you.
- Ignore the kingdom of Satan; pretend that it doesn't exist.
- Focus on yourself and forget about everyone else. It's all about you.

GOD'S RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Present yourself as a living sacrifice. **Romans 12:1-2**