

Intro: Tonite look at one of the most famous parables in the NT

Parable of Sower: Luke 8:4-15

Parable: Lit = a simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus in the Gospels.

4 Different Kinds Of Spiritual People

One Similarity: How They Handle The Word Of God

1. People With Hard Spiritual Hearts! Path

- Hear it
- Don't embrace it: *Mix the word with faith:*
- Evil one steals it away: Lit = *to lift up and take away*
- Not saved: Lit = *Not rescued from spiritual danger*

Illus: Donnie Johns: First time I saw it stolen away!

2. People Without Roots or Depth: No Roots

- Receive it with joy: Receive: Lit = *To accept and to understand*
- Have no root: Lit = *Don't let it penetrate their life or heart: Shallow faith*
- Testing: Lit = *Adversity, temptation; to put to the test*
- Fall away: Lit = *to withdraw, fall away, stand off and lose interest*

Illus: People who fall away

Pastors who fall away: Conversation just last week!

3. People Choked Out: Thorns

- Hear it:
- Embrace it:
- Choked out: Lit =
~Worries
~Riches
~Pleasures
- Do not mature: Lit =

Illus: Seen Success destroy just as many Christians as trials

In fact: When Trials DON'T WORK: Success is the next SOP

4. Fruitful: People With Good Soil:

- Hear it
- Retain it
- Persevere: Lit =
Through ALL of the above! Stolen away; Worries, Riches, Pleasures
- Good Crop: Fruitful: Synoptics: 30, 60, 100 fold
~Fruit of Spirit in YOUR life: Transformation You become more like Jesus
~Spiritual Fruit: Reproduction: Others coming to Jesus through you:

CONCL: Which of the 4 are you tonight?

Are you Hearing?

Are you Embracing?

Are you Retaining?

Are you Persevering?

Are you Producing Fruit: In You And In Others?

Communion

As We close: No one lights a candle and puts it under basket
My prayer for you:

- ~Be personally transformed internally
- ~Be reproducing in others

Go BE the light of Jesus

Go BE ready to give a reason for the hope within you!