

2/1/15

SERIES: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR
HAS COME, WEEK 59

TITLE: THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS, PART III

TEXT: LUKE 8:14&15

INTRODUCTION: (1) A PROPER UNDERSTANDING
OF THE PARABLE OF THE SOILS SHOULD HAVE A
DEEP INFLUENCE ON HOW WE DO EVANGELISM.

* FOR IN THIS PARABLE, JESUS TAUGHT THAT
THE VARIABLE IN RESPONSE TO THE SEED OF
THE WORD OF GOD, THE MESSAGE OF THE
GOSPEL, IS THE HEART, WHICH REPRESENTS THE
4 DIFFERENT KINDS OF SOIL.

** IT IS TO SAY, JESUS TAUGHT THAT THE
VARIABLE IS NOT THE METHOD OR THE SKILL OF
THE ONE PRESENTING THE GOSPEL OR THE
MESSAGE ITSELF, WHICH ARE THE THINGS THAT
ARE FREQUENTLY THE FOCUS OF
CONTEMPORARY EVANGELISTIC METHODOLOGY.

*** EVANGELISM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SALESMANSHIP, OUR PERSUASION, PRESSURE OR OUR ORATORY.

**** IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH TECHNIQUE, MANIPULATION AND HAVING A PAT PRESENTATION.

(2) HOWEVER, EVANGELISM HAS EVERYTHING TO DO WITH THE SEED, THE GOOD SOIL AND ULTIMATELY THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD.

* AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY HAS TO DO WITH FAITHFULLY AND LIBERALLY SOWING THE SEED. WE CANNOT CONVINC, CONVICT AND CONVERT.

** FOR CONVICTION WHICH PREPARES THE HEART TO RECEIVE THE SEED-THE GOSPEL, IS THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, QUOTE JOHN 16:8.

*** SO THE WORK OF CONVICTION IS THE **SPIRIT'S WORK WHOM TAKES THE SEED AND** APPLIES IT, AND OF COURSE THEN SALVATION IS THE WORK OF THE TRIUNE GOD.

**** YET, **THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WORK OF** CONVICTION DOES NOT TAKE PLACE IN A VACUUM. HE USES THE PROCLAMATION AND WITNESS OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE OF SIN AND THE NEED FOR SALVATION TO DO HIS CONVICTING AND CONVINCING WORK IN THE HUMAN HEART, THE SOIL OF THE PARABLE WE ARE STUDYING, QUOTE ROMANS 10:14 AND ROMANS 10:17.

(3) NOW WITH THOSE VERSES BEFORE US, BELIEVERS MUST PRESENT THE FULL MESSAGE OF SALVATION THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, THE EXALTED CHRIST, AND NOT MERELY FOCUS ON **IT'S BLESSINGS WHICH ARE IN REALITY** – MANY.

* MOREOVER, BEFORE PEOPLE CAN EXPERIENCE THOSE BLESSINGS THEY MUST COME TO GRIPS WITH THE REALITY OF WHO JESUS CHRIST IS, WHAT HE HAS DONE, AND THAT WITHOUT HIM, **AS SINNERS THEY WILL FACE GOD'S WRATH** AND ETERNAL JUDGMENT IN HELL.

** PEOPLE MUST SEE THAT THEIR ONLY HOPE LIES IN SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST IN HIS SACRIFICIAL DEATH FOR SINNERS AND HIS GLORIOUS RESURRECTION.

*** THEREFORE, IN EVANGELISM, WE SOW THE SEED OF THE GOSPEL, WE PRESENT CHRIST AND WE MUST EXPLAIN SIN TO THE LOST BEFORE **PRESENTING GOD'S GRACIOUS FORGIVENESS OF SIN.**

**** AS THE PURITAN THEOLOGIAN AND PASTOR JOHN OWEN SAID IN HIS BOOK **THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, AND I QUOTE, "THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE THEIR SOULS JUSTIFIED BY GRACE MUST HAVE THEIR SINS JUDGED BY THE LAW." (END QUOTE)**

(4) AND MY POINT FROM ALL OF THIS IS, ONLY THEN WILL THE HARD SOIL BE PLOWED, THE ROCKY SOIL BED BE BROKEN UP AND THE THORNS AND WEEDS REMOVED, PREPARING THE GOOD SOIL TO PRODUCE THE FRUIT OF SALVATION.

* SO THE METHOD IS SOW THE SEED OF THE WORD, THE GOSPEL MESSAGE, AND WE DO NOT HAVE TO SNEAK UP ON PEOPLE TO DO THAT, CHANGE THE MESSAGE OR TRY TO TRICK THEM INTO SOMETHING.

** BUT PRESENT THE SEED, SOW THE SEED AND GOD WILL GIVE THE INCREASE AS HE SOVEREIGNLY WILLS IN GOOD SOIL.

*** NOW IN OUR STUDY OF THE LAST TWO **SUNDAYS, WE'VE LOOKED AT TWO KINDS OF** SOIL WHICH ILLUSTRATES RESPONSES OF THE HEART TO THE SEED – THE GOSPEL.

**** **WE'VE LOOKED** AT THE ROADSIDE SOIL. AND THE SOIL BY THE ROAD OR BY THE WAYSIDE PICTURES A HARD, UNRESPONSIVE HEART.

(5) AND THEN LAST SUNDAY WE LOOKED AT THE ROCKY SOIL, WHICH REPRESENTS THE SUPERFICIAL HEART, ONE WHO PROFESSES FAITH QUICKLY, BUT AFTER TESTS AND TRIALS, TURNS AWAY AND REVEALS THEY NEVER WERE TRULY CONVERTED.

* AND SADLY THERE ARE A MULTITUDE OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT IN PROFESSING 21ST CENTURY AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY. PEOPLE WHO HAVE SOME FOLIAGE, BUT NO ENDURING FRUIT, AND TURN AWAY FROM THE FAITH, BUT REVEAL THEY NEVER TRULY HAD SAVING FAITH, THEY HAVE DEAD FAITH, OR DEMON FAITH OR A DECISIONAL FAITH, BUT NOT REAL SAVING FAITH.

* **SO WE'VE LOOKED AT** THE ROADSIDE SOIL AND THE ROCKY SOIL, WHICH LEAVES US TWO KINDS OF SOIL TO LOOK AT TODAY IN THIS PARABLE, THE SOIL THAT IS THORNY AND THE SOIL THAT IS GOOD.

** AND THOSE WILL BE OUR TWO MAIN POINTS TODAY, NO. 1 THE SOIL THAT IS THORNY, V. 14; AND NO. 2 THE SOIL THAT IS GOOD, V. 15.

*** AND WITH THAT BRIEF OUTLINE AS OUR **GUIDE, LOOK AT V. 14 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE** THE SOIL THAT IS THORNY.

I. THE SOIL THAT IS THORNY, (READ V. 14)

A. NOW THE WEEDY SOIL REPRESENTS A HEART PREOCCUPIED WITH WEALTH, WORRY AND WORLDLINESS.

* AND THIS THIRD KIND OF SOIL INFESTED WITH THORNS REPRESENTS THE PERSON WHO HEARS THE WORD BUT WHOM ARE TOO WORLDLY FOR THE SEED TO TAKE ROOT AND GROW IN THEIR HEART AND PRODUCE FRUIT.

** THIS PERSON HEARS THE WORD OF THE GOSPEL AND MOST LIKELY MAKES A PROFESSION OF FAITH. BUT HIS FIRST LOVE IS FOR THE THINGS OF THE WORLD, AND THEIR WORRY ABOUT OR PREOCCUPATION WITH THOSE THINGS BLINDS THEM OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GOSPEL OR ANYTHING ELSE SPIRITUAL OR ETERNAL.

** WORRY AND THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH CHOKE OUT THE WORD; THE WEEDS ARE WORRY, RICHES AND PLEASURE OF THIS LIFE.

*** AND IT MAY NOT BE THAT THIS PERSON IS RICH, THEY ARE DECEIVED BY THE DECEITFULNESS OF RICHES IN THINKING THEY CAN MAKE HIM HAPPY.

**** FOR RICHES ARE DECEITFUL IN THAT ONE MAY BUILD FALSE SECURITY UPON THEM AND THINK THEY SATISFY.

1. FOR THE POOR PERSON THINKS, **“IF ONLY I WERE RICH I WOULD BE HAPPY.”** OR FOR THE RICH PERSON, **“IF ONLY I WERE RICHER, I WOULD BE HAPPY, JUST A LITTLE MORE.”**

* AND THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH HAVING RICHES, IT IS NOT SINFUL. IN FACT RICHES CAN **BE USED FOR GOD’S GLORY IN SUPPORTING HIS WORK.**

** HOWEVER, THERE ARE MANY WARNINGS ABOUT DESIRING AND LABORING FOR RICHES, OR TRUSTING IN MATERIAL THINGS AND WANTING MORE AND NOT BEING CONTENT, QUOTE I TIMOTHY 6:6-8&10&11.

I TIMOTHY **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.”**

*** ALSO QUOTE LUKE 12:15, HEBREWS 13:5, PROVERBS 13:7, PROVERBS 23:4&5 AND I JOHN 2:15-17.

**** NOW THERE ARE FEW BARRIERS TO THE GOSPEL GREATER THAN LOVE OF RICHES AND THE WORLD IN GENERAL. AND NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS, QUOTE MATTHEW 6:24.

2. AND YOU CAN'T SERVE GOD AND MONEY, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

* AND **MARK 4:19 SAYS IN MARK'S DESCRIPTION** OF THIS SOIL (QUOTE IT). SO THE WORD IS **CHOKED BY THESE THINGS IN THESE PEOPLE'S** LIVES.

** AND WORRY HERE ALSO CHOKES THE WORD. **ANXIETY DISTRACTS PEOPLE. IT'S A THIEF THAT** ROBS PEOPLE OF CONTENTMENT. WORRY SUFFOCATES, IT CHOKES THE SEED. AND IT WILL NOT GROW AND PRODUCE FRUIT.

*** AND IT MAY BE THAT THESE PEOPLE WORRY ABOUT LOSING WHAT THEY HAVE.

**** AND YOU SEE PEOPLE LIKE THIS IN THE CHURCH FOR AWHILE. I MEAN THEY LOOK JUST LIKE THE REST OF THE FIELD TO BEGIN WITH, BUT THEY NEVER BEAR SPIRITUAL FRUIT. THERE IS NO FRUIT TO MATURITY. FOR THE SEED OF THE GOSPEL WILL NOT PRODUCE THE FRUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS UNLESS THE HEART IS PURGED.

***** THUS THEY ARE UNCOMMITTED AND **ALWAYS PREOCCUPIED WITH THE WORLD'S** PLEASURES, MONEY, CARES, FAME, FORTUNE OR THE LUSTS OF THE FLESH.

**** THEY SAY THEY ARE CHRISTIANS, BUT THEY CARE NOTHING ABOUT A PURE LIFE. WELL, THIS IS THE RESPONSE OF WEEDY SOIL.

3. THE GERMINATING SEED THAT LOOKS SO GOOD WILL BE OVERWHELMED BY THE THORNS OF WORLDLINESS AND WORRY AND OTHER LUSTS OR CRAVINGS AND EVENTUALLY THE WEEDY HEART WILL SHOW NO EVIDENCE OF SALVATION.

* AND WHAT HAPPENS IS THE SEED THAT ONCE LOOKED SO PROMISING IS CHOKED OUT. AND **IT'S NOT THAT THIS PERSON LOSES SALVATION,** THEY NEVER HAD IT. THE PERSON WITH THE WEEDY HEART WAS NEVER SAVED.

** THEY ARE DIVIDED BY WORRY AND WEALTH, AND MANY TIMES WORRY ABOUT WEALTH AND **THEY CAN'T LET GO OF** THESE THINGS TO TURN TO CHRIST.

*** THESE THINGS CHOKE THE WORD - THE SEED, AND ARE UNFRUITFUL. AND AGAIN NO FRUIT, NO SALVATION. FRUIT NOT FOLIAGE IS THE MARK OF TRUE SALVATION.

- WHICH LEADS US TO THE FOURTH AND FINAL EXAMPLE BY CHRIST IN THIS PARABLE, OUR SECOND POINT TODAY AND TO SEE LOOK AT VERSE 15 PLEASE, THE 4TH EXAMPLE OVERALL.

II. THE SOIL THAT IS GOOD, (READ V. 15)

A. NOW THE GOOD SOIL REPRESENTS THE HEART OF THE PERSON WHO HEARS THE WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT.

* AND KNOWING THAT THERE ARE 3 KINDS OF SOIL THAT PRODUCE NO FRUIT AND THOSE PEOPLE ARE NOT SAVED MIGHT BE DISCOURAGING. BUT THERE IS STILL GOOD SOIL, WHICH ILLUSTRATES THE RECEPTIVE PREPARED HEART.

** AND ALBERT BARNES IN HIS COMMENTARY ON MATTHEW SAYS THAT THIS GOOD SOIL IS **"THOSE WHO'S** HEARTS ARE PREPARED BY GRACE TO RECEIVE IT HONESTLY, AND TO GIVE IT FULL OPPORTUNITY TO GROW, IN A HEART THAT SUBMITS ITSELF TO THE FULL INFLUENCE OF TRUTH, UNCHECKED BY CARES AND ANXIETIES; UNDER THE SHOWERS AND SUMMER **SUN OF DIVINE GRACE."** (END QUOTE)

*** AND FOLKS THIS SOIL IS PROPERLY PREPARED. AND WHO PREPARES THE HEART? WELL, THE LORD OF THE HARVEST, AGAIN HE OPENS HEARTS, HE OPENS OUR EYES AND HE OPENS OUR EARS THROUGH DIVINE GRACE, THROUGH REGENERATION AND NEW BIRTH. FOR THOSE DEAD IN THEIR TRESPASSES AND SINS ARE UNABLE TO RESPOND TO SPIRITUAL TRUTH.

**** AND THE MOST DIRECT APPLICATION OF THE GOOD SOIL WOULD BE TO THE DISCIPLES, WHOM JESUS HAD PROMISED IN V. 10, **"TO YOU** IT HAS BEEN GRANTED TO KNOW THE MYSTERIES OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD".

**** AND IN V. 16 OF THE PARALLEL TEXT IN MATTHEW 13 WHERE JESUS WOULD SAY TO THEM, "BLESSED ARE YOUR EYES, BECAUSE THEY SEE, AND YOUR EARS BECAUSE THEY HEAR." WELL, WHO OPENED THEIR EYES? THE LORD!

1. AND LUKE 8:15 IS THE CLIMAX OF THIS PARABLE, A PROMISE TO HIS DISCIPLES AND ALL OF HIS FUTURE FOLLOWERS THAT PEOPLE WILL RESPOND TO THE WORD, AND NOT TO BE **DISCOURAGED WHEN MANY DON'T.**

* I MEAN DESPITE THE HARDNESS, THE SHALLOWNESS AND WORLDLINESS OF MOST HUMAN HEARTS, THERE ARE ALWAYS THOSE WHO ARE GOOD SOIL, IN WHICH THE GOSPEL CAN TAKE ROOT AND FLOURISH.

** THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PEOPLE WHOM THE SPIRIT HAS PREPARED TO RECEIVE THE WORD WITH SINCERE, SURRENDERED HEARTS, ALWAYS A REMNANT.

*** BELOVED, JESUS WANTED HIS DISCIPLES TO KNOW THAT THERE IS GOOD SOIL IN THE FIELD OF THE WORLD THAT HE HAS PREPARED.

**** AND LEST THEY OR WE BE SHAKEN BY **PEOPLE'S NEGATIVE RESPONSE, THERE** WILL BE PEOPLE PREPARED BY THE WORD AND THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO WILL REPENT AND TURN TO TRUST CHRIST FOR THEIR SALVATION.

2. AND BELOVED, JESUS ENDED THIS PARABLE WITH A GOLDEN HARVEST FROM THE LAST AND BEST KIND OF SOIL, A HEART THAT HAS BEEN PREPARED AND PRODUCES FRUIT.

* FOR UNLIKE THE ROADSIDE SOIL WHERE THE SEED NEVER PENETRATES, AND THE ROCKY SOIL WHERE IT SPROUTS BRIEFLY AND WITHERS, AND THE THORNY SOIL WHERE IT IS CHOKED OUT, THE GOOD SOIL IS PROPERLY PREPARED BY THE LORD OF THE HARVEST.

** AND THE SEED WILL GROW INTO MATURE PLANTS THAT ACCORDING TO THE END OF V. 15, **"BEAR FRUIT WITH PERSEVERANCE."**

*** AND AS I SAID LAST WEEK PERSEVERANCE SHOWS GENUINE SAVING FAITH, A FAITH THAT ENDURES IS FRUIT OF GENUINE SAVING FAITH.

**** FOR THOSE WHO TURN AWAY, THOSE WHO ABANDON THEIR PROFESSION OF FAITH PROVE AND SHOW THAT IT WAS NEVER REAL.

3. AND ALL TRUE BELIEVERS WILL BEAR SOME GENUINE FRUIT, EPHESIANS 2:10; BUT FRUITLESSNESS IS A MARK OF A FALSE, NON-SAVING FAITH.

* AND DIFFERENT AMOUNTS OF FRUIT WILL BE MANIFEST BY TRUE BELIEVERS.

** FOR IN THE PARALLEL COMPANION TEXT IN MATTHEW 13:23, MATTHEW CLOSES OUT HIS **PARABLE WITH THESE WORDS:** "AND THE ONE ON WHOM SEED WAS SOWN ON THE GOOD SOIL, THIS IS THE MAN WHO HEARS THE WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT; WHO INDEED BEARS FRUIT AND BRINGS FORTH, SOME A HUNDREDFOLD, **SOME SIXTY, AND SOME THIRTY.**" DIFFERENT YEILDS OF FRUIT.

AND AS I WRAP UP THIS PARABLE: (1) NOTICE THAT NOT ALL THE GOOD GROUND IS EQUALLY PRODUCTIVE. SOME BEARS QUANTITIES OF A HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTYFOLD AND SOME THIRTYFOLD.

* AND THAT MEANS NOT EVERY CHRISTIAN WILL ALWAYS BEAR AS MUCH FRUIT AS HE OUGHT TO OR COULD. OBEDIENCE IS THE KEY.

** BUT EVERY TRUE CHRISTIAN IS FRUITFUL TO SOME DEGREE. AND YES CHRISTIANS ARE DISOBEDIENT AND STILL SIN.

*** BUT ULTIMATELY CHRISTIANS ARE IDENTIFIABLE BY THEIR FRUIT. FRUIT NOT FOLIAGE IS THE MARK OF TRUE SALVATION.

**** AND WHETHER IT IS A HUNDREDFOLD, SIXTYFOLD, OR THIRTYFOLD, THE SPIRITUAL FRUIT OF TRUE BELIEVERS SETS THEM APART FROM THE HARD DIRT OF THE ROAD OR THE USELESSNESS OF THE WEED PATCH.

(2) OUR FRUIT IS EVIDENT, NOT SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO SCROUNGE AROUND LOOKING FOR AMONG THICK WEEDS. WE STAND OUT FROM THE ROCKY, THORNY AND BARREN EARTH.

* AND AS SOWERS, WE ARE CALLED TO BROADCAST THE SEED OF THE UNADULTERATED GOSPEL. AND THERE WILL ALWAYS BE WAYSIDE SOIL, SHALLOW SOIL, AND WEEDY SOIL, BUT THERE WILL ALSO BE GOOD SOIL.

** LET US BE FAITHFUL SOWERS AS TRUE BELIEVERS, FOR ALL THE PREPARED SOIL NEEDS IS THE SEED OF THE WORD.

*** AND KNOWING THIS ENCOURAGES US TO **KEEP COMMUNICATING GOD'S WORD, THE SEED,** THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL.

**** AND WILL EVERYONE LISTEN TO IT? WILL EVERYONE BELIEVE AND GROW BY IT? NO, DEPENDING ON WHERE THE WORD FALLS, IT MAY OR MAY NOT GROW.

(3) AND SOME PEOPLE WOULD NOT EVEN LISTEN TO JESUS HIMSELF, SO IT SHOULD NOT SURPRISE US IF THEY DO NOT LISTEN TO US EITHER.

* BUT WE ARE CALLED TO KEEP SOWING THE GOSPEL. IN ONE OF HIS SERMONS ON THIS PASSAGE, CHARLES SPURGEON MADE THIS POINT IN A VERY CLEAR WAY. HE SAID AND I QUOTE:

**** "WHAT THE MINISTER HAS TO DO, IS TO GO FORTH IN HIS MASTER'S NAME AND SCATTER PRECIOUS TRUTH. IF HE KNEW WHERE THE BEST SOIL WAS TO BE FOUND, PERHAPS HE MIGHT LIMIT HIMSELF TO THAT WHICH HAD BEEN PREPARED BY THE PLOUGH OF CONVICTION. BUT NOT KNOWING MEN'S HEARTS, IT IS HIS BUSINESS TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE - TO THROW A HANDFUL ON THAT HARD HEART YONDER, AND ANOTHER HANDFUL ON THAT OVERGROWN HEART, WHICH IS FULL OF CARES AND RICHES AND PLEASURES OF THIS WORLD.**

*** HE HAS TO LEAVE THE FATE OF THE SEED IN THE CARE OF THE MASTER WHO GAVE IT TO HIM, FOR WELL HE UNDERSTANDS THAT HE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HARVEST, HE IS ONLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE, THE FIDELITY, AND THE INTEGRITY WITH WHICH HE SCATTERS THE SEED, RIGHT AND LEFT WITH **BOTH HIS HANDS...**

**** WE ARE BOUND TO PREACH THE GOSPEL, WHETHER MEN WILL HEAR, OR WHETHER THEY **WILL FORBEAR. LET MEN'S HEARTS BE WHAT** THEY MAY, I AM NOT LOOSED FROM MY OBLIGATION TO SOW THE SEED ON THE ROCK AS WELL AS IN THE FURROW, ON THE HIGHWAY AS **WELL AS IN THE PLOUGHED FIELD."** (END QUOTE)

- AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS, NOT ONLY ARE WE UNDER OBLIGATION, WE HAVE THE PRIVILEGE AND JOY OF SOWING THE SEED.

(4) WE MUST PLANT, OTHERS WATER AND ONLY GOD GIVES THE INCREASE. WE MUST BE SOWERS.

* AND WILLIAM COWPER HAS WRITTEN A POEM **CALLED "THE SOWER" THAT SUMMARIZES OUR 3 MESSAGES ON THE PARABLE OF SOILS AND I'LL** READ IT AND MAKE ONE LAST POINT.

** THE SEED THAT FINDS A STONY SOIL,
SHOOTS FORTH A HASTY BLADE;
BUT ILL REPAYS THE SOWER'S TOIL,
SOON WITHERED, SCORCHED, AND DEAD.

THE THORNY GROUND IS SURE TO BALK
ALL HOPES OF HARVEST THERE;
WE FIND A TALL AND SICKLY STALK,
BUT NOT THE FRUITFUL EAR.

THE BEATEN PATH AND HIGH-WAY SIDE
RECEIVE THE TRUST IN VAIN;
THE WATCHFUL BIRDS THE SPOIL DIVIDE,
AND PICK UP ALL THE GRAIN.

BUT WHERE THE LORD OF GRACE AND POWER
HAS BLESSED THE HAPPY FIELD;
HOW PLENTEOUS IS THE GOLDEN STORE
THE DEEP-WROUGHT FURROWS YIELD!

*** GOD WILL SAVE SINNERS, THERE IS A HAPPY
FIELD, BUT WE MUST SOW FAITHFULLY.

**** BUT LAST OF ALL, MAYBE THROUGH THE STUDY OF THIS PARABLE, YOU REALIZE THAT THERE IS NO FRUIT IN YOUR LIFE, ONLY FOLIAGE.

(5) YOU HAVE MADE A PROFESSION OF FAITH BUT REALIZE THAT YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TRULY CONVERTED. WELL IF THAT IS YOUR STATE TODAY, LET ME SAY, HE WHO HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR.

* IF YOU SEE YOUR SIN, AND YOUR DECEPTION, AND YOU SEE THAT CHRIST IS YOUR ONLY HOPE, THEN CRY OUT TO HIM TODAY FOR MERCY AND FORGIVENESS, AND IF YOU DO THAT FROM THE HEART YOU WILL BE SAVED FROM YOUR SINS.

** I CLOSE WITH A FAMILIAR TEXT, ROMANS 10:9&10&13. QUOTE THEM AND PRAY.