

ON HEARING FRUITFULLY

Luke 8:4-15

All humans develop selective _____ --the ability to filter out noise in order to focus on what is important

1) The parable is about hearing; in v. 11 Jesus says, "he who has ears to _____, let him _____"

2) The seed is the _____: the parable illustrates our responsibility to hear the Word of God fruitfully

3) In v. 12, the Word of God includes the _____: those who don't hear cannot believe and be saved

I. THE _____ HEARER 8:5 & 12

In ancient Israel, farmers sowed seed on bare ground in the fall, trusting the _____ to "plant" the seed

Some seed fell on the hard-beaten _____ that crossed the fields to enable farmers to get to their work

A. It Was _____ Down

1) This hearer does not _____ the Word of God; it just does not penetrate his mind/heart

2) Because the seed does not penetrate, this hearer pushes it _____ to get no further attention

B. The _____ of the Air Devoured It

The Bible indicates the one place that _____ is certainly at work is where the gospel is preached

II. THE _____ HEARER 8:6 & 13

In the Near East, there are places where there is a shelf of rock close the surface and the topsoil is _____

A. It Sprang Up _____

1) In the early spring, seed that is in thin soil over a rock shelf heats up quickly and _____ early

2) This seed represents hearers who respond to the Word or the gospel quickly but _____

B. It _____ Away Because It Lacked Moisture

1) This hearer thinks he will have no more problems with sin after salvation, so _____ overcomes him

2) Or this hearer may often respond to preaching about sin, but is caught in the sin-decision-sin _____

III. THE _____ HEARER 8:7 & 14

A. It Fell Among _____: Weeds draw away the moisture/nourishment the seed needs to _____

B. The Thorns Sprang Up with It and _____ It

Excessive care for the things of this life can draw away the time and effort needed to bear _____

IV. THE _____ HEARER 8:8 & 15

A. It Fell on _____ Ground: Literally, v. 15 compares this soil to "a good and good heart"

1) Luke illustrates this kind of hearer in Acts 17:11, those who received the Word of God in _____

2) The preposition used in v. 8 indicates that the seed goes _____ the good ground—a ready reception

B. It Sprang Up and Yielded a _____ a Hundredfold

1) When Jesus interprets this crop, He speaks of bearing spiritual _____: the NT mentions 3 kinds:

a) Galatians 5 lists the fruit of the _____

b) Hebrews 13:15 equate spiritual fruit with "the sacrifice of praise" and "_____"

c) John 4:36 equates this spiritual harvest to the _____ we win to Jesus Christ by evangelism

2) Matt./Mark mention 30-fold and 60-fold: all fruitful hearers do not bear the same amount of _____

3) The biggest difference between hearers that bear fruit and those who don't is _____