

# Good Soil and Worthless Soil

Sermon 16 in the Hebrews Series

We are still in the “warning” context of Hebrews 5:11-6:12.

## I. Two Responses to the Warning -- 6:7-8

The good soil soaks up the water.

The good gifts of the Holy Spirit that we find in v. 5 benefit these people.

Those who are impossible to recover – are those who were within the church.

- 1) They were enlightened,
- 2) They have tasted the heavenly gift
- 3) They have become partakers of the Holy Spirit
- 4) They have tasted the good word of God
- 5) They have tasted the powers of the age to come,

v. 7 is the blessing

v. 8 is applicable to those who fit the description found in v. 6.

## II. OT Scriptural Allusions

### A. Duet. 29:23-29

*Genesis 13:10 -- And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere (before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the LORD, – Alluding to the Garden of Eden.*

### B. Isaiah 5:1-6

The unfruitful field had received rain – but it won't anymore.  
These apostates had heard the truth – but they won't anymore.  
They will be left in their sin.

Isaiah applies it to the nation.

The Hebrew writer applies it to the individual in the New Covenant community.

## III. The Purpose of Parables Luke 8:9-10

The Hebrew writer has given the soils as a parable.

Two people can hear the same truth – in one good comes from it, and in another, nothing happens – because the Holy Spirit hasn't applied that truth to the heart.

#### IV. The Parable of the Sower Luke 8:4-8; 11-15

1. The Word of God goes forth like Seed.  
But, it doesn't always spring up to fruitfulness.  
The reason for success or failure is not in the seed itself.  
The reason is in the soils.
2. There are 4 related Greek words in this parable.  
Sower – to sow – sowed – seed (like if the English was sow).  
In Greek all a form of the basic verb – **spei-ro σπειρω**.
3. The story itself is simple.
  - 1) *Some seed falls on the trodden path that won't even be plowed.*  
So it ceases to be seed and becomes bird feed.
  - 2) *Some seed falls on ground that is rocky.*  
It's hard to properly plow rocky ground.  
Your plow only goes in so far – and the seed doesn't get deep enough.
  - 3) *Some seed falls on the thorny ground.*  
Weeds grow better than crops.  
Weeds grow naturally while crops are planted.
  - 4) *Some seed does fall on the good ground.*  
This is where you get your harvest.  
You might lose some grain on the path.  
You might lose some grain on the rocky soil.  
You might lose some grain to the weeds.  
  
BUT – the good soil produces (according to Matthew and Mark)  
30 times or 60 times or 100 times as much as you planted!

Applications: How to best profit from the Word.