

Parable #1. The Sower and the Seed (Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23)

- Matthew 13:1 begins with “now on the same day” consider the context
- Jesus had healed many: “could this be the son of David?” (12:22)
- Disciples were greatly troubled by the events before Jesus’ first parable
- Why do so many hate Jesus, though he performed such great miracles?
- With these questions Jesus changes his location / teaching style (13:1-3)

I. The Sower and the Four Different Soils (13:4-9)

1. Sower sows seed and it falls on the wayside/ foot path/ road (v.4)
 2. Sower sows seed in shallow soil (v.5)
 3. Sower sows seed in soil with thorns and weeds (v.5,6)
 4. Sower sows seed in good fertile soil, producing a rich harvest (v.7,8)
- He who has ears to hear, let him hear! (v.9 cf vv.10-17)

II. Jesus Explains the Four Different Soils to His Disciples (13:18-23)

- There are only three components here: the seed, the sower and the soil
- The sower is the Lord (13:37) – and all who proclaim His gospel
- What is the seed? Vs 19 “**anyone hears the word of the kingdom**”

III. Jesus Applied the Parable

1. The hard / wayside soil: the heart is hard- (Satan steals the seed)
2. Rocky soil: no depth/ initial joy, but heat of trials scorch it and it dies
3. Soil with weeds: cares of world & deceitfulness of sin chokes the seed
4. Rich soil: Holy Spirit plowed the soil in the heart – rich harvest