

## Behold, A Sower Went Forth to Sow

Text: Matthew 13:1-23

Introduction:

- A. Why is it that people of about equal intelligence, knowledge and apparent sincerity so often see the Bible entirely differently?
- B. This parable of the Master answers this very vital and interesting question.- Matthew 13:9-11,18
- C. Why do some understand the gospel, whereas others fail to do so?

I. background- Matthew 13:1-3

II. the parable- Matthew 13:3-9; cf. Mark 4:13

III. Why did Jesus speak in parables? - Matthew 13:10-13

- A. Why did some not understand?
  - 1. not because the mystery is incomprehensible - Ephesians 3:1-4
  - 2. not because of lack of intelligence- John 3:1,5,9,10
  - 3. not because of need of direct operation of Holy Spirit - 1 Peter 1:22-23
  - 4. because of the wrong attitude - Matthew 13:14-15
- B. In contrast, the disciples were blessed because they were willing to hear. - Matthew 13:16-17
- C. The key is attitude. - Proverbs 4:23

IV. What is the lesson of the parable? - Luke 8:9; Matthew 13:18-23

- A. The seed is the word of God.- Luke 8:11
  - 1. The seed has life within to produce fruit. - John 6:63
  - 2. That power is undiminished with time. - 1 Peter 1:24-25; Seed from King Tut's tomb bore fruit though buried for thousands of years.
  - 3. The seed has the same power in each case, but the soil will determine the yield.- Romans 1:16
- B. The sower is the preacher. - Mark 4:14; Romans 10:14-17
- C. Four soils are four hearts.
  - 1. The wayside soil does not understand the word. - Luke 8:12
  - 2. The stony ground soil has no root. - Luke 8:13
  - 3. The thorny ground is choked with cares, riches and pleasures.- Luke 8:14
  - 4. The good ground brings forth fruit with patience.- Luke 8:15

Conclusion:

- A. The answer is: Some have the right attitude and some do not.
- B. The lesson of the parable is both plain and vital: **Your Attitude Toward The Word Of God Will Determine The Destiny Of Your Soul.**
- C. Take heed therefore how ye hear. - Luke 8:18