



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

What Type Soil are You?

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In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching, forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly shared the Kingdom of God. On this occasion, Luke describes a parable that Jesus told to illustrate His message.

“When a large crowd was coming together, and those from the various cities were journeying to Him, He spoke by way of a parable: “The sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and it was trampled under foot and the birds of the air ate it up. “Other seed fell on rocky soil, and as soon as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. “Other seed fell among the thorns; and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out. “Other seed fell into the good soil, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as great.” As He said these things, He would call out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” His disciples began questioning Him as to what this parable meant. And He said, “To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is in parables, so that SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND. “Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God. “Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved. “Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away. “The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity. “But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.” (Luke 8:4-15 NASB)

The parable of the seed and the soil. Jesus uses the telling of a parable, a short story to communicate a symbolic meaning and truth. On this occasion Jesus tells a story about a farmer sowing seed in various types of soil. Many times Jesus does not give an interpretation of the parables He tells; however, His disciples did not understand what the story meant and on this occasion Jesus explains the parable to them. The seed is the word of God and the soil represents various types of people. Not all are going to see and understand after seeing and hearing the word of God. Jesus describes four types of people.

Those that hear and are distracted by the devil. This describes a person who has heard the word of God and before they believe the devil takes away the message from their heart.

Those that hear and receive the word and fall away. This describes a person who has heard the word of God and found joy for a time and then fall away quickly after testing and temptation. Many times this person is emotionally drawn to Christ and when the emotion fades away so do they.

Those that hear and become distracted with the world. This describes a person who has heard and possibly accepted Christ as their Savior but not their Lord. This person is distracted by worldly materialism and pleasures and their faith does not produce fruit. This person wants Christ to be their Savior but not their Lord. Faith will produce fruit.

Those that hear, understand, believe and bear fruit. This describes a person who has heard the word of God and believes with his head, mouth, heart and actions. This person has a soft heart for God. This person, through his belief and faith, produce fruit. This person has matured and made Christ his Savior and Lord.

For Your Consideration:

- Have you heard the word of God?
- What type of soil are you?
- Does your faith produce fruit? Is Jesus Christ your Savior and Lord?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44