

# **The Parable of the Sower**

*John MacArthur*

## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 13.
- B. The kingdom of God is present within and yet future.

## II. The parable.

- A. The seed that falls on hard ground never germinates.
- B. The seed that falls on rocky ground germinates but cannot survive.
- C. The seed that falls on weedy ground will not survive if it germinates.
- D. The seed that falls on good ground will certainly germinate.

## III. The meaning.

- A. The sower is anyone who sows the gospel. We can see this by way of the seed.
- B. The seed is the gospel. (Luke 8:11)
- C. This is a parable about sharing the gospel.
- D. We must understand that there will be all sorts of responses when we share the gospel.
- E. The parable is about the soil, not the seed.
- F. We can expect different responses. The problem is not the seed. We must keep sowing.
- G. The hard ground.

- 1. Satan snatches this person away. (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- 2. These are spiritually blind

### H. The rocky ground.

- 1. These are those who have a felt need.
- 2. A psychological felt need is not enough.

### I. The weedy ground.

- 1. These are those who are preoccupied and divided in heart. (James 2:19)
- 2. Demon faith has all the right information, but they are doomed to hell.

3. Turning towards righteousness is the only thing that removes the weed. There must be a willingness in one's life to turn from sin.

J. The fruit producing ground. There will be manifest active and attitude fruit for the true believer. (John 15)

**Application Questions:**

1. Why is it helpful for people who share the gospel to know that different responses do not depend upon the message?

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2. What is the seed--that is, what specifically is the gospel message we should share?

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3. Who can you share the gospel with this week? How has this message been an encouragement for this?

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