

## **“The Sower, Seed & Soils”**

Pastor Jeff Alexander + July 16, 2017

### **Matthew 13:3-9**

“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

**The Farmer/Sower in this story is the Lord God.**

*“So is MY word that goes out from MY mouth!” Isaiah 55:11*

**The seed in this story is the Word of God, specifically the message of salvation through Jesus Christ.**

*“It will accomplish what I desire, and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:11*

**The purpose of the Lord God sowing the seed of His Word is to save the souls of people.**

*“God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:4*

**The soils in this parable represent the hearts of people.**

**As Jesus’ explanation will show, there is only ONE sower and ONE seed but MANY types of hearts.**

### **Matthew 13:18-19 | The Soil of IGNORANCE**

“Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.”

### **Matthew 13:20-21 | The Soil of IMMATURITY**

“The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.”

### **Matthew 13:22 | The Soil of IDOLATRY**

“The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.”

### **Matthew 13:23 | The Soil of IMPLEMENTATION**

“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”