

The Sower

Prepared by: Pastor Blaine G. Smith

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Scripture Study

Mark 4:14-20

14 The **sower soweth** the word.

15 And these are they by the **way side**, where the word is sown; but when they have **heard, Satan** cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.

16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution **ariseth** for the word's sake, immediately they are **offended**.

18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word,

19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

20 And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.

Mark 4:19

Then the cares and anxieties of the world and distractions of the age, and the pleasure and delight and false glamour and deceitfulness of riches, and the craving and passionate desire for other things creep in and choke and suffocate the word, and it becomes fruitless. (AMP)

Sower and Soweth (4687) To scatter, sow (er) receive seed.

Way side (3598) Way, path, a road in which one travels, a journey.

Heard (191) To hear, hearken, or listen, to understand, to hear with the ear of the mind.

Offended (4624) To entrap, trip up, or entice to sin, displeasure, offend, to throw someone unawares into ruin; to give occasion for ungodly conduct resulting in the mischief incurred thereby to craftily entice or lead to ruin, allowing someone to adopt a course in which he will unknowingly come to mischief and ruin.

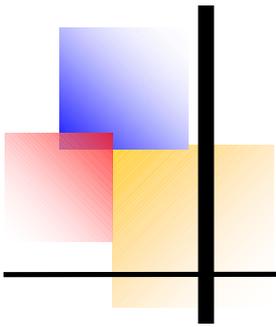
Satan (4567) An adversary.

Affliction (2347) from (2346) Anguish, burden, persecution, tribulation, trouble, symbolically means grievous, affecting or distress, pressure or burden on the spirit.

Ariseth (1096) To be made or created from nothing, to be fulfilled or accomplished.

† The way side could be compared to life's journey.

† People usually think that persecution and affliction come because of them, but the word said it comes because of the word.



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Mark 4:23-29

23 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

24 And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

25 For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.

26 And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;

27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

29 But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come. (KJV)

1 Corinthians 10:13

There hath no **temptation** taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not **suffer** you to be **tempted** above that ye are able; but with the **temptation** also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to **bear it**. (KJV)

Suffer (1439) Permit, or leave alone.

Bear it (1529) Endure, or under go hardship.

Way To Escape (1545) Exit, or end.

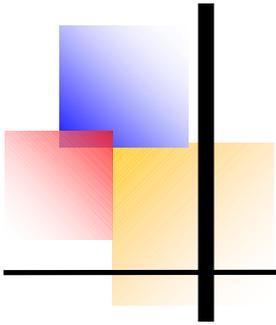
Tempted (3985) To test, scrutinize, entice, discipline: assay, examine, to go about, prove, tempt, try, the tempter, to prove by solicitation to sin, to prove one has been evil, or to make him evil.

Temptation (3986) Adversity, temptation, solicitation.

† F Greek word (3986) is the same word used in the scripture where Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness. Satan's desire is to use temptation, and adversity to seduce you into falling away.

1 Corinthians 10:13

For no temptation (no trial regarded as enticing to sin, no matter how it comes or where it leads) has overtaken you and laid hold on you that is not common to man [that is, no temptation or trial has come to you that is beyond human resistance and that is not adjusted and adapted and belonging to human experience, and such as man can bear]. But God is faithful [to His Word and to His compassionate nature], and He [can be trusted] not to let you be tempted and tried and assayed beyond your ability and strength of resistance and power to endure, but with the temptation He will [always] also provide the way out (the means of escape to a landing place), that you may be capable and strong and powerful to bear up under it patiently. (AMP)



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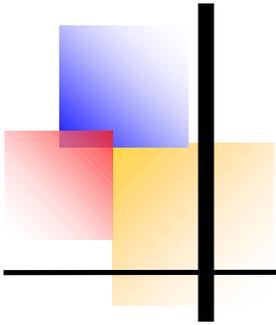
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Food for thought Our Weapons Are Not Common

There are a couple of points that we should take a closer look at in this parable of the sower each of which are centered around the word. Jesus is teaching that when the word is sown in your heart it takes root and grows night and day. The ground will bring forth fruit of itself some thirty, sixty and one hundred fold. Jesus said to "take heed to what you hear: with what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you: and to you that hear shall more be given." Depth of root and how well you keep the thorns out of your garden greatly effect the quality of harvest. This is why some receive thirty fold, some sixty fold and some one hundred fold. God has removed all limits from you; all things are possible to him that believes. The measure has been put into your hands. Jesus has provided everything that pertains to life and godliness. Is there anything that can separate us from His love? Therefore no temptation, trial, affliction, persecution, care, deceit, lust, no amount of the devils evil soliciting, no matter how it comes or where it leads, nothing can overtake you [come upon you unexpectedly or draw even with you,] The weapons the devil uses against us are earthly [ordinary, average, mediocre of inferior quality; second rate, not unique, nor noteworthy] for they are common to man.

Jesus stripped the devil of the keys of death hell and the grave, and made us more than conquerors through Him. God is faithful to be at your side and will not allow the devil to [tempt, try, solicit, assay, or examine you by trial or temptation] beyond your ability and strength to resist his effects. God will always [every time] provide a safe place of escape. [Read Psalms 91] Jesus has given you the ability and the right to put on the whole armor of God and to use His name. Our weapons are not common [ordinary, average, of inferior quality; second rate, nor mediocre] but they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. Why does the devil come immediately to take the word out? Have you ever tried pulling up a small weed, It wasn't too hard was it? Try pulling up a one hundred year old oak tree. When the word is big and has a deep root system in your life it looks like that oak tree to the devil, He maybe crazy but he isn't completely dumb. The best chance he has to get the word out of you is when it is still a seedling. So then, what should we do when the devil comes to try and steal the word?

In Luke 4:1-13 Jesus used the word to resist the devil. The word is sharper than a two edged sword; it is part of the armor of God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. We have been given power to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy. If you have a message for the devil, write it on the bottom of your shoe. Part of the commission Jesus gave was for us to cast out devils in His name. James instructed us to count it all joy when we fall into diverse testing, temptations and trials, for the joy of the Lord is our strength. It is also very important to have patience in times of temptation and trial. Patience does not mean to lay down and let the devil have his way with you. The word patience means to be constant - consistent. Sure it isn't easy during times of trial and temptation but we must learn to be consistent in acting on the word of God and resisting the devil. Don't resist one day and then give in the next. Instead resist the devil everyday until Jesus comes back, that's patience. James says that the trial of your faith works patience, and when patience is developed you will be perfect and entire lacking nothing.



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Study Questions

1. Complete the following statement. Satan cometh immediately, _____.
2. Why was affliction or persecution able to take the word out?
3. What caused the word to become unfruitful?
4. Why did some bring forth good fruit?
5. What effect did the thorns have on the word?
6. Using the Greek word study explain what it means to be offended as found in Mark 4:17.
7. In 1Corinthians 10:13, God is faithful to do what?
8. What did God reveal to you as you studied?

Extra Blessing

(Study To Show Yourself Approved Unto God 2 Timothy 2:15)

Matthew 13:18-23

Luke 8:11-15