

Truth is Not Always Accepted

Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

And He spoke many things to them in parables, saying, "Behold, the sower went out to sow; and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil. But when the sun had risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. Others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out. ⁸ And others fell on the good soil and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear."

Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. The one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the man who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty."

The truth of the Gospel does not change. Accepted or rejected, the truth is still the same. In this parable Jesus shows the sower planting the same seed everywhere. The result of the harvest is based on the soil. From a Gospel standpoint, we see the difference of effectiveness in the way the people chose to respond to the Gospel.

Let's look at four ways that truth is dealt with.

Truth is sometimes:

1. Stolen.

1 Peter 5:8, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Revelation 20:10

2. Seen as situational.

Matthew 8:21, Ephesians 4:14, 2 Corinthians 11:3, Hebrews 4:12

3. Too costly.

Matthew 19:16-26, Mark 4:19, 8:36, Luke 21:34, 1 Timothy 6:9-10, 17

4. Accepted.

Luke 9:23, 2 Corinthians 5:17, John 1:4, 12, 3:14-15