

The Parable Of The Sower And The Modern Church

Luke 8: 4-21, vs. 15

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Intro. A We have previously studied this parable.

1. We viewed it from a particular viewpoint.
2. We noted verse 15 and the characteristics of the "good ground".
3. These were people who had honest and good hearts.
4. These coupled with patience allowed them to bring forth "fruit".

B Bearing fruit is a much used illustration in the Bible.

1. It is often applied to Israel, especially the vine.
2. Jesus used it constantly in His teaching.
3. The vine and the branches. John 15:1-8
vs. 8 "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples".

C. What is this "fruit" that Jesus speaks of?

1. Spiritual fruit is that act or attitude which is in direct correspondence to God's will. Hence, all that Jesus ever did was "fruit".
2. It is always of the Spirit. Gal. 5:15-26
vs. 22²³ "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law".
3. There is the law of the harvest. Gal. 6:7-8

D. Is there any relevant information for the modern church in this parable?

1. Does it make any difference what the Bible says?
2. Are we advanced beyond the teachings of this man Jesus?

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B. Those on the rock.

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Vs. 13

1. They receive the word with joy.
2. They have no root, (character)
3. For a while they believe, (πιστεύω = trust).
4. In the time of temptation they fall away.
5. ἀφίστημι = "to separate one's self".

(B) What shall we do?

1. "temptation" = πειρασμός = "putting to the test"
2. We must remove the problem, we must never let them be tested.
3. There can be no illness, no unkindness, no pain, no problems, no dark skies, never a death.
4. Form a support group.

③ C. That which fell among thorns.

Vs. 14 1. They hear the word of God.

2. They go forth.

3. They are choked, "συμπνίγω" = "to suffocate by crowding".

4. They bring no fruit to maturity.

5. Why? What chokes them? ① Cares.

2. Riches 3. pleasures of life

(C.) What shall we do?

1. We must give them what they want!

2. "Cares" = μεριμνα = "dividing or distracting the mind" Things that cause anxiety or fear; we must dispell the things that cause anxiety.

3. "Riches" = πλουσλος, "having or abounding in wealth". Combination of "much + more". Begin a seminar on "How To Get wealth".

4. "pleasures of life" = ἡδονή = "hedonism" delight, enjoyment, pleasurable sensations. This calls for entertainment, sports oriented, boating, style shows.