

Hearing the Word of the Kingdom & Bearing Fruit in a Fruitless World

1. Jesus' Parable of the Sower

- Spoken to the crowds
- A sower sows seed on 4 kinds of soil (and only 1 produces grain)
- Do you & I have ears to hear?

2. Jesus' Purpose for Parables

- to teach His disciples & speak judgment on the hard-hearted
- to teach about the kingdom
(its secret manifestation before its final culmination)

- to bless & exhort His disciples (including you & me)

3. Hear the Parable of the Sower

- the seed sown on the path – the one who hears the word and doesn't understand it (the evil one snatches it away)
- the seed sown on rocky ground –
the one who quickly receives the word but then quickly falls away
- the seed sown among thorns – the one who hears the word but is choked by worldly cares & the deceitful pleasures of riches
- the seed sown on good soil –
the one who hears the word, understands it & bears fruit