



The Soil Of The Heart

Matthew 13:1-9, Matthew 13:18-23

The Hard Soil

- The hard soil is the picture of a heart where the message of salvation cannot take root.
- The cross is nothing but foolishness to those with a closed heart.
- Head knowledge without heart transformation is worthless.
- Hard soil can also be found within our hearts.
- No heart is beyond God's reach.

The Rocky Soil

- The rocky soil warns us of a shallow heart, alive for a moment but withering in the heat of trials.
- Genuine faith proves itself over time.
- We are not only to sow the seed, but to nurture it, too.
- To live lives worthy of the Gospel, our obedience must sink deeper than fleeting emotion.

The Thorny Soil

- Some hearts fail because they are crowded with the thorns of worry and wealth.
- Many will hear the offer of salvation yet reject it because it is choked out by the of cares of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth.
- When people see Jesus alive in us, they see a testimony far more powerful than words alone.
- Busyness and misplaced priorities suffocate our hunger and thirst for God.

The Good Soil

- When the seed falls on good soil; the harvest is far greater than we can ever imagine.
- As we sow the Good News in this fallen world, it can feel discouraging.
- *“Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”* 1 Corinthians 15:58
- Our calling is not to make the seed grow, but to plant and water faithfully.

Conclusion

- Have the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth, or the pursuit of comfort choked out God's presence in you?
- God can break the hard ground, uproot the rocks, and remove the thorns to make our hearts soft, deep, and fruitful for His kingdom.
- Open your heart to God, and He will make your life into good soil that bears much fruit for His glory.