

Bible Study on Luke 8:1-21

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Verses included

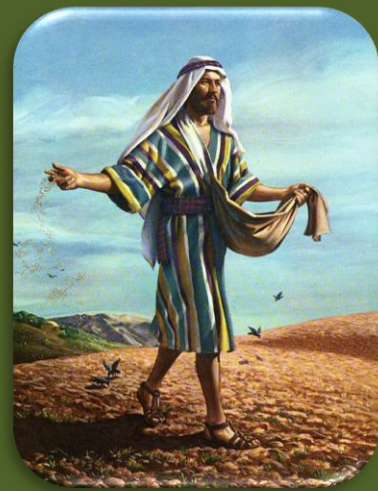
Luke 8:1-21

1 And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, 2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, 3 And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

4 And when much people were gathered together, and were come to him out of every city, he spake by a parable:

5 A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by **the way side**; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. 6 And some fell upon **a rock**; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. 7 And some fell among **thorns**; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. 8 And other fell on **good ground**, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. 9 And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be? 10 And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. 13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. 15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. 16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light. 17 For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad. 18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have. {seemeth...: or, thinketh that he hath} 19 Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press. 20 And it was told him by certain which said, Thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to see thee. 21 And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.



Also found in Matthew 13 and Mark 4

Luke chapter 8

Chapter 8 starts out with Jesus on what seems like a whirlwind missions tour as it states that He and His disciples went to every city and village. The mission was to preach and show the glad tiding of the kingdom of God. The Gospel truly is good news, it is the best news that God loves us despite we were wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, Christ came down to earth to redeem us sinners so that we may be reconciled to Him and live in a perfect place forever. We didn't seek Him, we didn't love Him.

Rom 3:10-12 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Psa 14:3 They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away

Thankfully it doesn't end with this woeful truth.

1Jo 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Jesus then tells the parable of the sower that most have heard before. This is one of the Bible stories I recall hearing as a child and was intrigued by what it meant. Thankfully Jesus explains it plainly to His disciples but still yet there are debates on at least a portion of this parable. It's important we have a proper understanding of it's truth. It must fit with the other Biblical teachings.

The elements of the parable are:

- The Seed
- The Sower
- The Ground (The wayside, a rock, thorny, and the good)

The 'seed' is plainly taught to be the Gospel and the sower is anyone that shares the Gospel with others. There are four different types of ground but all represent the hearers' heart. Those that have the 'wayside' heart react to the Gospel with absolute rejection and in some cases vehemently deny it or aggressively oppose it (Also referred to as 'wayside' in Matthew and Mark). It's hard to imagine why some would be so set against it but I believe it is because they have to work hard to resist what deep down they know to be true and are therefore robbed of peace. Notice in verse 5 it was trodden down and the fowls came and devoured it. Satan is so anti-God he doesn't want anyone to hear it and have another soul reconciled to God.

In verse 6 we see the seed land on a rock, or stony places as described in Matthew, and stony ground in Mark. This part is debated concerning the person represented here and whether they were saved or not. The Bible indicates that it is certainly someone who was never saved. For this person The Gospel was just a passing fad, as if to say oh, that's sounds nice, let's give that a go. The passage says that something sprung up but it never bore fruit because it withered away. In Matthew and Mark it says they had no root and you can only be rooted and grounded in Christ.

Col 2:6-7 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving

Here in Luke it says they withered because they lacked moisture, Jesus is the one that gives living water.

Joh 4:10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

Joh 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

Next, we read of the seed falling among thorns and the thorns choked out any growth. This reminds me of trees I've seen with lots of parasitic vines growing up which rob the tree of nutrients and eventually starve it out causing the tree to die. Sin, and worldly offerings act the very same way but what it offers is only temporary and brings forth death. The Bible warns us many times concerning this.

1Jo 2:15-17 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And

the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1Pt 1:24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

Luk 12:19-20 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. But God said unto him, **Thou** fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

On the 'good ground' we see an illustration of a true believer that has heard the Word of God, received it, and lived it out bringing forth fruit. We are definitely called to be spiritually fruitful like Adam and Eve and later Noah and his wife and his sons and their wives were called to be fruitful in a physical sense (Gen 3: , 9:7). We are fruitful by bearing spiritual children through sharing the Gospel, and living it by example, so that others may be saved.



Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

Gen 9:7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

Psa 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Verses 16-21 Jesus makes it clear that the saved person has an obligation to bear fruit and to do so by letting God's light shine through us, and share His glorious message. It also is a reality check that a person isn't saved merely because they've heard the Word of God but they do it; faith in action.

Sadly, not everyone we share The Gospel with will get saved. The seed may fall by the wayside, it may be a rock, or among thorns, but it could fall on good ground. One thing is certain, if no seeds are scattered, nothing will grow.

Psalms 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

As always I hope you enjoyed the lesson, may God bless you and your families. Please feel free to share it with others.