

## THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matthew 13:1-23

Key Verse: 13:23

1. Read verse 1-3. Who had tried to hinder Jesus' work that day? Why had the large crowd gathered in spite of opposition? How did Jesus manage the large crowd of people who came to listen? What is a parable?
2. Read verses 4-9. What were the 4 kinds of soil and the outcome of the seed scattered in each? (Describe each in detail.)
3. Read verses 10-13. What was the disciples' question? Why did they ask this question? Why was it good for them to ask? What has been given to them and not to others? Why? How did Jesus explain his reason for speaking in parables?
4. Read verses 14-17. How were Isaiah's words in Isa 6:9-10 fulfilled? How are the disciples different from the crowd? In what way are they greatly privileged?
5. Read verses 18-19. What is the seed? What is the seed sown along the path? Who were path-like people? Who are path-like people today?(or do we all have times of being like a path?) Read verses 20-21. What is rocky heart soil? What happens to seed which fall there? What does the hot sun represent? (6,21)
6. Read verse 22. What happens to the seed that falls on a thorny heart? What do the thorns represent? Read verse 23. How is the good-soil heart different from the other three? How can soil become good? How can heart soil become fruitful?