The Global Population In A Pie Chart

"Then He told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow His seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell on the good soil, where it produced a crop-a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. He who has ears, let him hear." (Matthew 13:3-9)

Jesus once again is delightful to those who come to Him, the faithful disciples who are seeking knowledge and wisdom. The Lord explains to them in details the parable of the sower. He unfolds part of the secrets of God's kingdom to those who give respect and reverence to His word.

Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

The Farmer went out of the house: The farmer is Jesus who came down from heaven. God the Father sent Him to earth, the place of sowing; the place where God tests and prepares souls, and elects those who deserve to live with Him forever in heaven. Likewise, the farmer can be any worker in the field who is sowing the message of salvation as he declares the good news to the lost soul. The seed is the word of God and the message of salvation in Christ Jesus. The **ground** is the global population or the various people on earth. The global population differ in the way they respond and in the way they handle the word of God. While Jesus, the farmer, or any worker in the harvest-field of God sowing, His seed may fall into four different places or parts of the earth:

1-The seed that falls along the path, the bird came and ate it up: "When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path." The message of salvation is this: You have to believe that Jesus took your sin and die on the cross instead of you, He rose from the dead, He ascended to heaven and He will come back again to take those who believe in Him and to those who follow Him, and to judge those who are not. The evil spirits (the birds) may come and snatch part or all of these truth, so you lose the seed given to you. Moreover, your previous thoughts and knowledge, your scientific, traditional, and religious background make you not understand or doubtful to the message. All these head-knowledge, contrary beliefs and old practices pave the way for the birds to come and steal the seed. And as you expose the word of God outside your heart the birds will quickly come and eat it.

2-The seed that fall on the rocky places, sprang up quickly but scorched by the sun: "The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once received it with joy. But since it has no root, they last only a short time, when trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly falls away." The seed is covered with little soil so at once it sprang up and easily recognized by the eyes. But this has no root because it doesn't have good bed. Consequently, it does not absorb water and that makes it susceptible to be scorched by the heat of the rising sun. You may have received the word of God with joy because Jesus is good to you. He did for you miracles, healed you, provided your needs, and rescues you from danger or shame. But in spite of that, you leave less room for the word of God in your heart. So when the sun rises you cannot stand against it. The sun represents 1) Trouble: Jesus is good whenever everything is good. But how about if you loss your job, you get sickness or you loss your love ones? If the word of God is not rooted well in your heart you may say, "Since Jesus forsaken me, I will forsake Him!" or you may even hate the Lord.

The sun also represents **2) persecution:** One good standard to measure how much you keep God's word in your heart is when you are under persecution. Being believers in Jesus the world may hate you and reject you, and you may loss many things for the cause of following Jesus. The bandit may say, "Either your money or your life." I advise you to give them your money and keep your life by keeping Jesus, because He is the founder and finisher of life. Don't lose Him and don't lose your crown in times of discrimination or persecution. God's word will sustain you in such circumstances if His word is deeply rooted in your heart. Otherwise, when trouble or persecution come and you fail, you fall not because the sun was hot but because you keep God's word so shallow in your heart. Be aware!

3-The seed that falls among thorns which grow up and choke the plant: "The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful" In this category the thorns and the seed share a common place in the human heart. They are roommates! You know the word of God very well, but you are not using it properly in your life because of the presence of the following thorns: (1) Worries: The continuous mental and physical work stress will give you internal fears, worries and anxieties. These grab your time or chance to sit with the Lord and to hear His voice or listen to His direction. The Bible is full of promises that shield you and assure you that Emmanuel, God is always with you. But if worries take you away from reading the Bible and sitting with God, how will the Lord speak to you? You sit down thinking and planning rather than meditating God's word and claiming God's promises. This attitude of yours will choke God's word and you will never bear good fruit. Another thorn is, (2) Deceitfulness of wealth: You are human and normally living in this world. You are enticed and envious to the things that are around you. You follow the world's principles and styles of life; living with the desire of the flesh and sinful nature. Wickedness, greed, lust, and desire to gain more, and more. Be reminded, "No-one can serve two masters."

4-The seed that fails on a good soil: "But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." As you receive the message joyfully, and God's word dwells comfortably alone in your heart you will grow robustly and you will bear good fruits. Keep and use the word of God properly and honestly in your daily living, and God's grace will continue to work through your obedience. Then you will give the seed in return to others, and the harvest will multiply, yielding crops of hundred folds.

The description of this parable may have a pessimistic probability because only one out of four keeps the word of God and only a quarter bears fruit, but this is not the only truth. The losses of the farmer from the seed fallen along the path, rocky place or among the thorns will be compensated by the abundant harvest. If not, no farmer will continue sowing. The losses in the first three categories will be replaced by the output of the fourth one. The seed is the word of God which is always sown abundantly and generously on earth, and as a result it has unending success.

My Dear and Beloved: On which part of the pie chart do you belong? The word of God is like honey that the more you keep, the more delicious it becomes. The more you keep and store God's word in your heart, the more you enjoy and deeply understand the secrets of God because Jesus loves you and wants you to know Him more. Come to Him and remain in His word as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that gives me clear understanding about the danger that may come into my life and affect what I received from your word. Lord give me obedient and undivided heart to receive your word and to persevere in retaining your word to produce the fruit that you desire to see in my life and in my ministry, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.