

# The Hidden Treasure

*“<sup>1</sup>Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. <sup>2</sup>He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: <sup>3</sup>“Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed.<sup>4</sup>As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup>Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. <sup>8</sup>Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” <sup>10</sup>When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. <sup>11</sup>He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables <sup>12</sup>so that, “they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!” <sup>13</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? <sup>14</sup>The farmer sows the word. <sup>15</sup>Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. <sup>16</sup>Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup>But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. <sup>18</sup>Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; <sup>19</sup>but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. <sup>20</sup>Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown.” (Mark 4:1-20)*

The crowd that gathered around Jesus was so large and He started to teach them how to manage their lives according to the Word of God; people they need God's Word to stand in this life. If there is no teaching, it means there are no disciples, and life with out the Word of God is of no use.

Jesus taught the crowd many things by parables, and parables are stories with hidden meaning, God will reveal His secrets and the hidden treasures to those who are willing to search and seek for God. If you are not willing to seek God, no much guidance and no more help you will receive from the Lord. The Lord Jesus Christ came down from heaven, sent by God the Father, to bring us back to God. He is the Way and the Truth and the Life and through Him we have life eternal and life to the full. Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give eternal life to everyone who believe in Him and follow His step in His life.

*“Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed:* The seed is the word of God, and there are four types of soil the seed may fall on with different response. People will show different response to the message of God but we should not fail to bring the message to whatever people because it is God's grace reaching the people through us. We have to do our part and allow God to work in their lives. The four types of soil that the seed may fall on are:  
*1- Seed fell along the path, 2- Seed fell on rocky places, 3- Seed fell among thorns,*

and *4- Seed sown on good soil.* We know the Word of God but we don't know the soil, so we should not fail but to continue to scatter the seed, the Word of God and pray to God to bring the fruit.

*1- Seed fell along the path (Verse 4, 15):* Satan comes and takes away the Word that was sown in them. As you hear the message Satan will come and tell you don't believe this is only in the bible and not the reality. Or you may hear the message but you have certain understanding and you don't want to change that, so you will hear the message but it is of no value to you, and got loss. How we can relate to that? The Word of God always bring to us new things and we need to be willing to be changed and transformed, and not to keep our old and wrong concept in life.

*2- Seed fell on rocky places (Verse 5-6, 16-17):* Troubles and trials should not cause us to fall away. Troubles and trials should make us strong. Trials should bring our roots deep and in direct contact with God, seeking Him more and more. In trials we pray and we continue to present our request to God. We will not give up in trials, but we have to develop more resistance. In trials we pray, ‘Lord help us, enable us to persevere, to stand firm and to do your work faithfully and to the end, in Jesus name, Amen.’ Trials should prosper us and make us fruitful.

*3- Seed fell among thorns (Verse 7, 18-19):* The thorns that kill the seed, the Word of God and the plan of God are the following: *First, worries of this life* bring the battle in the mind. We should not entertain sorrowful thoughts or give them big importance. *Second, the deceitfulness of wealth,* attract your attention to things that you don't need and make you involve in projects and plans out of the plans of God. *Third, the desire of other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.* Be careful! Your selfish ambition can be a very dangerous factor to drag you away from the plan of God and His will in your life. Selfish ambition is the work of the flesh and will lead you to sin. Sad to say that many Christians of today doesn't know the will of God and act against the plan of God.

*4- Seed sown on good soil (Verse 8, 20):* We need to accept the message, retain the Word of God, and allow it to work in our lives that make us persevere to obey all God's commands in order to be fruitful and effective Christians.

*My Dear and Beloved:* Let us be as the Word of God instructs us, *“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.” (Luke 8:15)* The good soil is a noble and good heart, a heart that hears the Word and value moral things. We need to retain the Word of God. Sometime the Word of God is painful because it carries a rebuke and discipline and when we hear it we want to vomit it. But as we retain the medicine in our mouth and swallow it even if it is bitter. The same should be our attitude toward the Word of God, we need to retain it even when it is painful so we will be an effective and fruitful Christians walking with God and doing His will as we 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 teaches me the path of life. Lord change my heart and make it a noble one of good soil, that retain your Word and persevere with you to bring the fruit that you desire to see in my life. This all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.