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ONE (GOOD) DAY AT A TIME

Matthew 13:1-23

Matthew 13:10-12, 10 The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”11He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secretsof the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. 12Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

Matthew 13:1-9; 18-25; Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 12:46-50; Genesis 12:1-3

* The secrets of God’s kingdom are revealed to those who receive God’s *influence* well in their hearts**.**

Matthew 13:1-3, 1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed.

Valuing God’s Influence in our Hearts

1. Who is the sower?

Matthew 13:3, . . . “Afarmer went out to sow his seed.”

Matthew 13:18-19, 18 “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19When anyone *hears* the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart.

* The sower is the one planting God’s truth into people’s hearts.

1. What is the seed?

Matthew 13:3, . . . “A farmer went out to sow his seed.”

Matthew 13:19, When anyone hears the message about the kingdom . . .

* The seed is the message about His kingdom.

Psalm 107:20**;** 1Thessalonians 2:13; Colossians 1:6

Work - *energeo* - to be active, mighty, and to show forth itself

1. What is the soil?

Matthew 13:18-19, 18 “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart . . .

* The soil is a human heart.

1 Peter 1:23

1. The Calloused Heart (Hard soil)

Matthew 13:4; Matthew 13:19

* We must be receptive for God’s Word to reward us.

1. The Casual Heart (Shallow stony soil)

Matthew 13:5-6; Matthew 13:20-21

* Faithfulness gets us beyond appearance to abundance of blessing.

1. The Crowded Heart (Thorny soil)

Matthew 13:7; Matthew 13:22; Mark 4:19; James 1:21

* How we accept God’s Word determines the amount of blessing

we receive.

1. The Consecrated Heart (Good soil)

Matthew 13:8; Matthew 13:23; Mark 4:13

* Everyone can grow a greatly blessed life who understands and practices the truths of this parable!

Questions:

1. What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
2. What will you do because of it?
3. How can we pray for you?

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