

The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 53

Teaching Through Parables ~ Part 2

In our first post in this mini-series on the **Parables of Yeshua**, we looked at why He spoke in parables. Speaking to His **talmidim**, He said: ***¹⁰ Because it has been given to you to know the secrets of the Kingdom of Heaven, but it has not been given to them...¹³ Here is why I speak to them in parables: they look without seeing and listen without hearing, or understanding...in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Yeshu'ahu (6:9-10) " (Mattityahu 13:10-14)***

Mattityahu 13 consists of eight parables. The first - the parable of the sower - describes four different responses to the message of the **Kingdom of Heaven** that **Yeshua** and His **talmidim** preach. **Yeshua** interprets the parable in vv. 18–23 below. Now, let's come back to Mattityahu 13:1.

The Parable of The Sower

¹ That same day, Yeshua went out of the house and sat down by the lake; ² but such a large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there while the crowd stood on the shore.

Yeshua may have gone out on the water a short distance to improve people's ability to hear Him, as sound travels better over the water. If He remains surrounded by the crowd, His words may not be heard.

³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed.

In His parables, **Yeshua** compares the **Kingdom of Heaven**, or certain aspects of it, to everyday situations of His day (such as farming and fishing).

⁴ As he sowed, some seed fell alongside the path; and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky patches where there was not much soil. It sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow;

The birds scooped up the seeds so quickly that they did not have time to sprout. The soil above the bedrock warms quickly, so seeds readily sprout, but the shallow soil cannot sustain growth.

⁶, but when the sun had risen, the young plants were scorched, and since their roots were not deep, they dried up. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ But others fell into rich soil and produced grain, a hundred or sixty or thirty times as much as had been sown. ⁹ Those who have ears, let them hear!" ~ Mattityahu 13:1-9

An excellent - tenfold harvest would have been considered a good crop. **Yeshua** explains these three soils below.

The Parable of The Sower Explained

Yeshua explains one of His parables in a rare display - but only to His **talmidim**.

¹⁸ "So listen to what the parable of the sower means. ¹⁹ Whoever hears the message about the Kingdom, but doesn't understand it, is like the seed sown along the path - the Evil One comes and seizes what was sown in his heart. ²⁰ The seed sown on rocky ground is like a person who hears the message and accepts it with joy at once, ²¹ but has no root in himself. So, he stays on for a while; but as soon as some trouble or persecution arises on account of the message, he immediately falls away. ²² Now, the seed sown among thorns stands for someone who hears the

message, but it is choked by the worries of the world and the deceitful glamor of wealth so that it produces nothing. ²³ However, what was sown on rich soil is the one who hears the message and understands it; such a person will surely bear fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty times what was sown."

All of us Believers have probably known someone or even ourselves who has fallen into one of these first three soils. Our hearts go out to those who have refused the rich soil.

In our next post, we continue to focus on **Yeshua's Teaching Through Parables** by returning to Mattityahu 13:24.