

# SOWING THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:1-9,18-23

# Parables



## □ **Defined**

- comparison between two objects or ideas
- an earthly story with a heavenly meaning

## □ **Purpose**

- Jesus taught a biblical principle using terms the people understood.
- Reveal and conceal (v.10-17)

# 4 Types of Soil



- **Wayside** (v.4) - Paths b/n fields; untilled, packed down, exposed; seeds do not penetrate soil
- **Stony Places** (v.5) - Little soil until bedrock is reached; no deep roots; sun scorched
- **Thorns** (v.7) - Other things choke out moisture, nutrients, light, space, etc.
- **Good ground** (v.8) – loose, soft soil; good depth to the roots; plenty of nutrients, sun; no weeds

# 4 Responses to the Gospel



- **Unresponsive** - wayside (v.19)  
Reject the spiritual; no guilt/shame II Cor. 4:4
- **Shallow** -stony places (v.20)  
Message received but no transformation Lk. 18:21
- **Worldly** -thorns (v.22)  
Saved, but no/little fruit Rev. 3:14, I Cor. 3:12-15
- **Receive, Respond & React** - good ground (v.23)  
Hears, understands, responds, bears fruit

# What soil am I?



- **Wayside** – “I could care less about God!”
- **Stony Places** – “I know the story but my life has never really been changed by the gospel.”
- **Thorns** – “I am saved but my life is centered on me, my job, my time, what I want, my money, my vacations, my time, my fun ...”
- **Good Ground** – “ I am saved, surrendered, and daily being transformed into the image of Christ.”