

The Kingdom Parables
The Sower and the Soils
Matthew 13:1-23 (page 338)

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Parable: a comparison, through a story, to help make a truth clear

The parable given (Matthew 13:3-9)

The parable explained (Matthew 13:18-23)

- Sower: Jesus
- Seed: the message of the kingdom (Word of God)
- Soils: the various individual receptivity to the “seed”
 - *Compacted soil* - Hard, impenetrable, no response
 - *Rocky soil* - Shallow, unsustainable, disingenuous response
 - *Thorny/weedy soil* - neglected, distracted, unproductive response
 - *Good soil* - prepared, receptive, fruitful response

The parable's point:

The kingdom of God will come through the declaration of a message that will result in varying responses from its hearers.

The parable applied:

What is the condition of the soil of my heart?

How I respond to the Word of God reveals the condition of my heart.
