

Associate Pastor David Seah
Title: The Sower, The Seed & The Soil
Text: Luke 8:5-8, 11-15

Luke 8:5-8, 11-15 (NKJV):

5 “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. **6** Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. **7** And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. **8** But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

11 “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. **13** But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. **14** Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. **15** But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

Introduction

3 observations that help us have :-

- I. a right perspective of God,
- II. the correct approach to His Word,
- III. a receptive heart.

Content:

I. The Sovereign Sower

As surely as the sower sows, God speaks.

1. God speaks because He loves.
2. The choice of His Word is based on His sovereign will for us.
3. The Sower has the prerogative to sow as He pleases.

The story of Job is a revelation of God’s sovereignty.

Job 38: 1- 10 (MSG) :-

And now, finally, GOD answered Job from the eye of a violent storm. He said:
"Why do you confuse the issue? Why do you talk without knowing what you're talking about?
Pull yourself together, Job! Up on your feet! Stand tall!
I have some questions for you, and I want some straight answers.
Where were you when I created the earth?
Tell me, since you know so much!
Who decided on its size? Certainly you'll know that!

Who came up with the blueprints and measurements?
How was its foundation poured, and who set the cornerstone,
While the morning stars sang in chorus and all the angels shouted praise?
And who took charge of the ocean when it gushed forth like a baby from the womb?
That was me! I wrapped it in soft clouds, and tucked it in safely at night.
Then I made a playpen for it, a strong playpen so it couldn't run loose,
And said, 'Stay here, this is your place. Your wild tantrums are confined to this place.'

God is sovereign. His choice and ways are beyond question. He holds supreme power and absolute authority.

We submit to His Sovereign will.

II. The Effective Seed

As surely as a seed germinates, God's Word is active and effective.

2 Tim 3:16-17 (NKJ) - All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Tim 3:16-17 (MSG) - Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

God's Word:

1. Shows us truth,
2. Exposes our rebellion,
3. Corrects our mistakes,
4. Trains us to live God's way.

God's Word ought to be built line upon line & precept upon precept.

Isaiah 28:9-12 (NKJ) - **9** “ Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those *just* weaned from milk? Those *just* drawn from the breasts? **10** For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.” **11** For with stammering lips and another tongue, He will speak to this people, **12** To whom He said, “This *is* the rest *with which* You may cause the weary to rest,” And, “This *is* the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear.

We align ourselves with the precepts of His Word.

III. The Conducive Soil

As surely as the soil is made for the seed, our heart is made for God's Word.

Genesis 1:11 – 12 (NKJV) - Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed, *and* the fruit tree *that* yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed *is* in itself, on the earth”; and it was so. **12**

And the earth brought forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed according to its kind, and the tree *that* yields fruit, whose seed *is* in itself according to its kind. And God saw that *it was* good.

What is the condition of the soil of your heart?

There are 2 conditions – either bad or good:

i. The bad soil.

Luke 8 : 12 – 14 (MSG) - The seeds on the road are those who hear the Word, but no sooner do they hear it than the Devil snatches it from them so they won't believe and be saved. **13**"The seeds in the gravel are those who hear with enthusiasm, but the enthusiasm doesn't go very deep. It's only another fad, and the moment there's trouble it's gone. **14**"And the seed that fell in the weeds—well, these are the ones who hear, but then the seed is crowded out and nothing comes of it as they go about their lives worrying about tomorrow, making money, and having fun.

James 1:22-24 – (NKJV) **22** But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **23** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; **24** for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

2 Tim 4:3-5 (MSG) - **3-5**You're going to find that there will be times when people will have no stomach for solid teaching, but will fill up on spiritual junk food—catchy opinions that tickle their fancy. They'll turn their backs on truth and chase mirages. But you—keep your eye on what you're doing; accept the hard times along with the good; keep the Message alive; do a thorough job as God's servant.

1 Cor 8:1-3 (NKJV) - Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies. **2** And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know. **3** But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him.

ii. The good soil.

The conducive soil goes through 4 processes:

- Hears;
- Understands;
- Acts Upon The Word;
- Bears Fruit.

Luke 8: 15 (MSG) - **15**"But the seed in the good earth—these are the good-hearts who seize the Word and hold on no matter what, sticking with it until there's a harvest.

We maintain a fertile heart that yields a fruitful life.

Conclusion

The Sower has sown. The seed has fallen. The conducive soil has received.

We can expect the Sower to delight in the harvest!