

The Parable of the Sower

Luke 8:1-15

by Don Falkos

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One day when a large crowd had gathered Jesus told a story:

A farmer was sowing seed. The seed fell on four different kinds of soil. Some of the seed fell on the hard-packed soil of the path, and it got walked on or eaten by birds. Some of the seed fell on thin, rocky soil. It started to grow, but its roots had difficulty finding water, so it quickly withered and died. Some of the seed fell among weeds. But the weeds grew so quickly they kept the seed from producing any crop at all. But some of the seed fell on good soil. It grew and produced a crop a hundred times more than what was sown.

Later, Jesus' disciples asked him what the story meant. He answered:

The farmer sows the word of God. Some people are like the hard-packed soil of the path. These are people who hear the word of God but for whatever reason are not able to accept it. Some people are like the thin, rocky soil. They hear the word of God and at first are very excited. They believe for a while, but when troubles come they fall away – their faith dies. The seed falling among weeds is like people who hear the word of God and want to believe but who are overwhelmed by the worries and the riches and the pleasures of life. Their faith never grows. But some people are like the good soil. These people hear the word of God and believe and their faith grows and grows and grows.