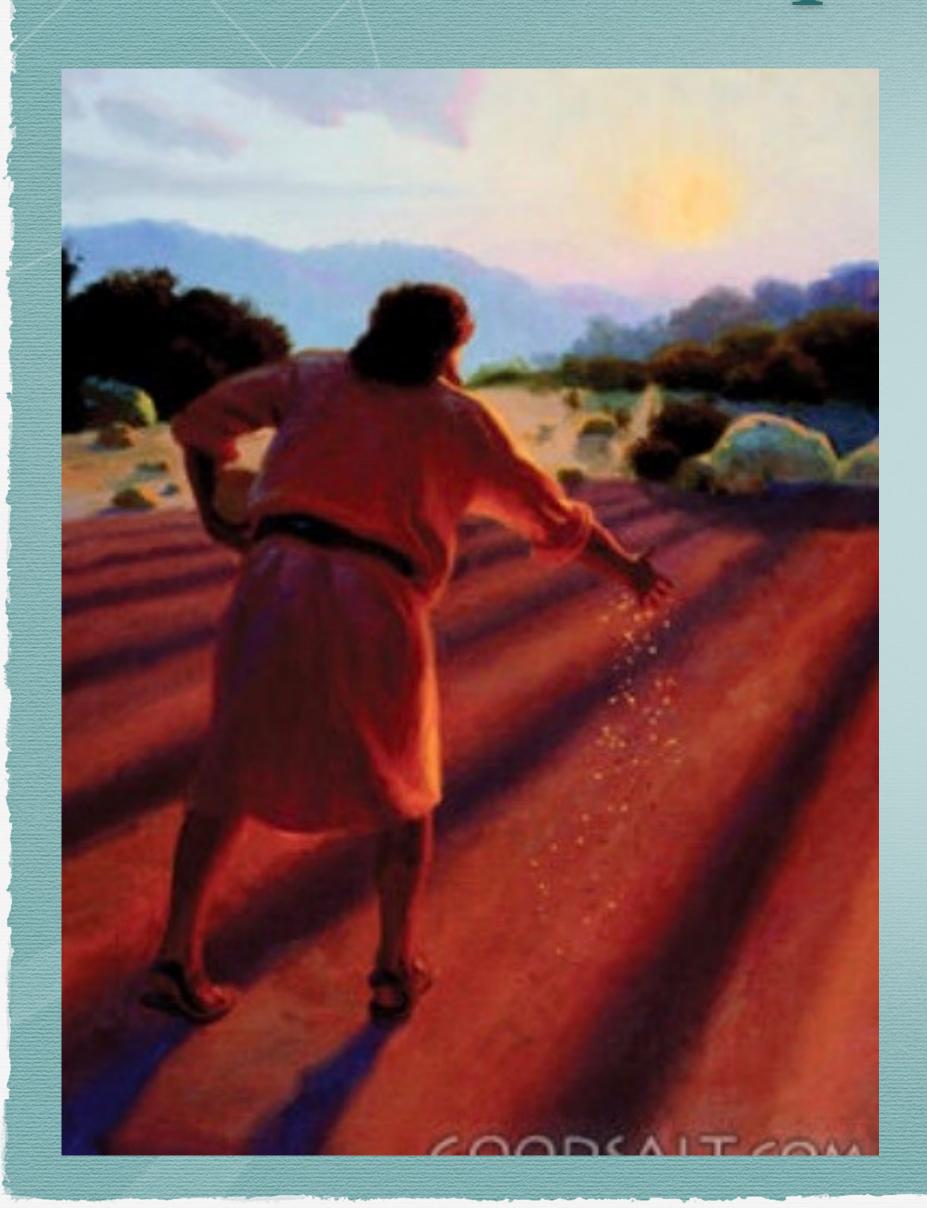


The Soil Experience Matthew 13:1-23



- 1. That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake.
- 2 Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore.
- 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed.
- 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.
- 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow.
- 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.
- 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.
- 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop
- —a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.
- 9 Whoever has ears, let them hear."

The Soil Experience Matthew 13:1-23



10 The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"

11 He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

12 Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

13 This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:

"You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

15 For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them. [a] (Isaiah 6:9,10)

The Soil Experience



16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.

17 For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

18 "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

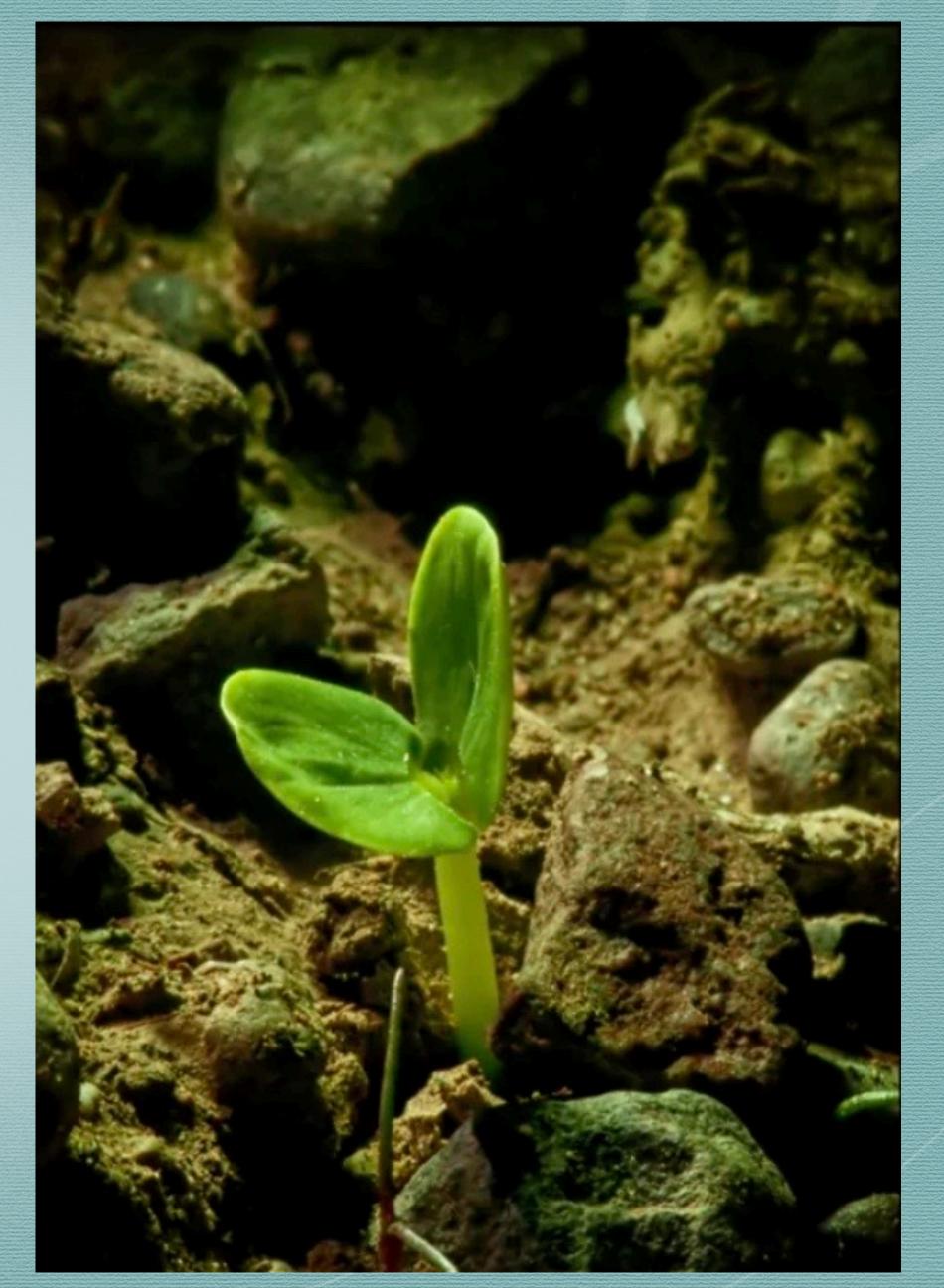
20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy.

The Soil Experience

21 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

22 The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."



The Sower Went Forth to Sow Christ Object Lessons Chapter 2

By the parable of the sower, Christ illustrates the things of the kingdom of heaven, and the work of the great Husbandman for His people. Like a sower in the field, He came to scatter the heavenly grain of truth. And His parable teaching itself was the seed with which the most precious truths of His grace were sown. Because of its simplicity the parable of the sower has not been valued as it should be. From the natural seed cast into the soil, Christ desires to lead our minds to the gospel seed, the sowing of which results in bringing man back to his loyalty to God. He who gave the parable of the tiny seed is the Sovereign of heaven, and the same laws that govern earthly seed sowing govern the sowing of the seeds of truth.

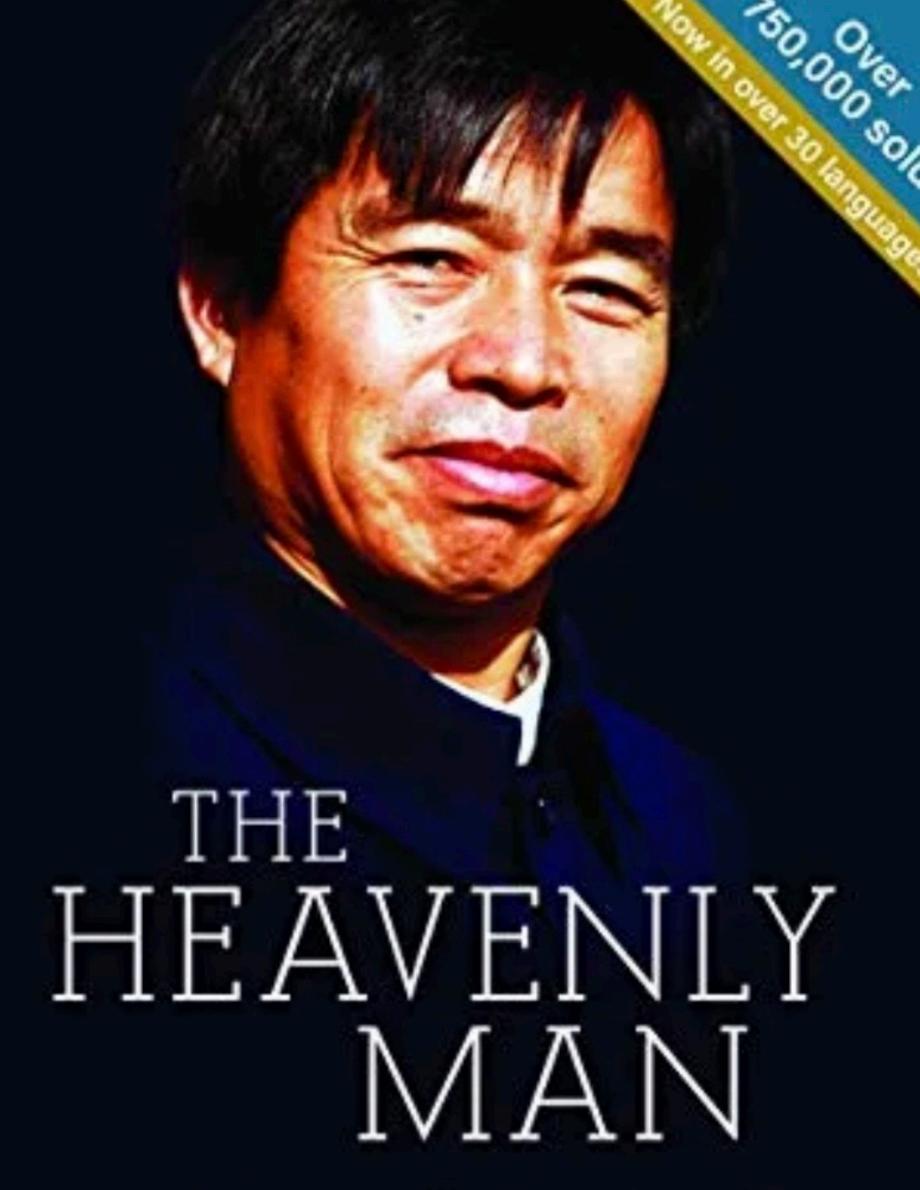
The Sower Went Forth to Sow Christ Object Lessons Chapter 2

"The husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain." James 5:7. So the Christian is to wait with patience for the fruition in his life of the word of God. Often when we pray for the graces of the Spirit, God works to answer our prayers by placing us in circumstances to develop these fruits; but we do not understand His purpose, and wonder, and are dismayed. Yet none can develop these graces except through the process of growth and fruit bearing. Our part is to receive God's word and to hold it fast, yielding ourselves fully to its control, and its purpose in us will be accomplished.

The Sower Went Forth to Sow Christ Object Lessons Chapter 2

"If a man love Me," Christ said, "he will keep My words; and My Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." John 14:23. The spell of a stronger, a perfect mind will be over us; for we have a living connection with the source of all-enduring strength. In our divine life we shall be brought into captivity to Jesus Christ. We shall no longer live the common life of selfishness, but Christ will live in us. His character will be reproduced in our nature. Thus shall we bring forth the fruits of the Holy Spirit—"some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred."

The Heavenly Man p. 337 - 340 Brother Yun



The Remarkable True Story of Chinese Christian Brother Yun

with Paul Hattaway

The Sower Parable

