26 7 20 The sower – Pt 3 seed sown falls among thorns are choked.

In our previous teaching we established that (1) The sower went out to sow seed, and (2) some fell upon rocky ground, where i) they hear, receive and believe the word and it immediately springs up, ii) however they have no root, lack moisture, iii) so endure for a time, but then in temptation they are offended and wither and iv) fall away. This week we establish (1) the sower went out to sow seed, and (2) some seed fell among thorns which sprung up and choked the seed, so it yielded no fruit, and (3) the thorns are things that become a snare.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded -

1. The sower went out to sow seed – the word or God "Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow" (Mk.4: 3), c.f. – Mk 4:14 "The sower soweth the word".

2. Some seed fell among thorns – "And some fell among thorns" (Matt..13:7).

I) And the thorns sprang up with the seed. "And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up" (Matt.13: 7). Also Mk.4: 7

ii) the thorns choked the seed "And...the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it" (Lk.8: 7)

iii) and the seed yielded no fruit

"And some fell among thorns...and choked it, and it yielded no fruit" (Mk.4: 7).

3) The thorns are things which become a snare

"And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful" (Mk.4: 18 & 19), c.f.- 1 Tim. 6: 9 "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition".

Illustration to help apply the teaching to our life.

Many on the street that preachers meet will indicate a conversion experience, where seed was sown in their heart, but lusts enter in or cares of the world pull them down.

Question to think about.

i) What is the outcome of those that are choked?

ii) What is the Biblical remedy for those who are choking, are snared by thorns?

Our answer from the scriptures.

i) "Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked" (Lk 8:33).

"But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition" (1 Tim6: 9).

ii) "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life..." (2Tim 2:4). "But godliness with contentment is great gain...And having food and raiment let us be therewith content" (1Tim 6:6 & 8). If you are going to sow seed, let us do so with a support network to feed the young babes, help them to become strong, content, turn from temptation, that the seed received in their heart will not have an opportunity to be snared by the thorns which, if they take root, will choke the seed.