

The sower – Pt 4 & final – Seed on good ground bears fruit

This is our fourth and final study on the sower. In our previous teaching we established that – (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. This week we establish – (1) The sower sows seed (2) some falls on good ground and (3) the good ground is an honest heart that hears, receives, understands the word of God and brings forth fruit with patience.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded –

1. The sower sows seed which is the word of God

“Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow” (Mk.4: 3), c.f. – Mk 4: 14.

2. Some falls on good ground

“But other fell into good ground” (Matt.13: 8).

3) The good ground –

i) Is an honest and good heart

“But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart” Lk.8: 15).

ii) hears and keeps the word of God

“But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it” (Lk.8: 15)

iii) receives the word of God

“And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it” (Mk.4: 20).

iv) understands the word of God

“the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it” (Matt.13: 23)

v) Brings forth fruit with patience.

“And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundred fold...with patience” (Lk.8: 8 & 15).

Illustration to help apply the teaching to our life.

On Friday I went to a funeral of a Christian brother – Graham Laurent who I only knew from the street as a preacher and an evangelist. At his funeral there were three (that I counted) homeless people from the street that came to pay their respects to a humble man who had shared Christ, helped and cared for them in a time of need.

Question to think about.

Who, and what determines the quality and quantity of fruit that a believer bears?

Our answer from the scriptures.

i) Who determines the fruit? Is God – “He giveth the increase” (1 Cor.3: 7).

ii) What determines the quality of the fruit – is the food that a seed receives. If the food is corrupt then the quality of fruit will be effected. And to bear much fruit we need patience. Hence those who bear an abundance of good quality fruit are those who have been fed from the perfect, pure words of God and walked patiently through tribulation (Rom.5: 3). May we all surrender to God to be used to sow seeds, and feed those seeds which others have planted with pure water, that we may receive a reward for our labours and God be glorified (1 Cor.3: 7 & 8). Amen!