

# Parable Of The Soils (Part Two)

Mark 4: 16-20

May 31, 2026

Verse 16 - 17

**Stony ground – *Sandcastle faith***

**Likewise, like the hard soil, the stony ground is not saved, not genuine**

**The stony ground has little soil to take root in; it sprouts quickly and fizzles quickly**

**The seeker sensitive, emergent, progressive church movement has fostered this type of belief**

**Embrace the culture's values and call it LOVE!**

**Many western churches are built on this model – programs and entertainment in, Bible out**

**Inclusivism is big; allow any cultural sin into the church and label it LOVE!**

**Sandcastle Christianity has blossomed – Matthew 7: 26-27**

**Sandcastle Christianity is quick to throw God overboard**

**Many are deconstructing their faith, abandoning the faith**

**Real love speaks the truth, even when unpopular!**

**Alexander Solzhenitsyn, 1970 Nobel prize for lecture in literature:**

*“One word of truth outweighs the world”*

Many have not been taught about the reality of the Christian life; life here is plain HARD!

*“ . . . . when tribulation or persecution arises for the word’s sake, immediately they stumble”*

God’s Church model:

*The Apostles doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer*

When God’s model is followed, men and women of grit emerge

**No quit, no retreat, no surrender!**

Verse 18 - 19

**Thorny ground – *distracted by the world faith***

**Many believe this soil represents the rich young ruler**

The rich young ruler was never *“in Christ”*; he never followed Christ, was never a real believer

**The thorny ground person is different; a *“loves the world”* Christian is different**

This is a distracted Christian; distracted by the stuff in the world

This guy/gal professes Christ but is unwilling to cut loose the world

This is a picture of the carnal Christian

**This person brings no fruit to maturity (Luke 8: 14); there is little, it'sy, bitsy fruit, small but present**

**It is difficult to know if the carnal Christian is indeed a Christian; only God knows for sure!**

Saved or not saved, in any event, this is a dangerous place to be

**I do know: No following, no salvation**

Jesus made this clear in **John 10: 27**

***“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”***

**I do know: There will be no flim-flam with Jesus**

No excuses, no I thought I was OK!

A person is either in or out, ***“in Christ”*** or outside of Christ –  
no middle ground, NO GRAY!

**Are you following and obeying Jesus or not?**

**A simple question requiring an honest answer**

## Verse 20

**Good soil – *A heart submitted to God faith***

**What is good?**

*Good is always the will of God*

**This soil is unmistakable; this soil produces fruit and continues to produce fruit**

**Good soil results in fruit, not because of what they do, but because God is working in them producing fruit – *a heart yielded to God!***

**What is fruit?**

*Fruit is character CHANGE!*

# Closing Thoughts

# There is much debate in Christendom about the parable of the soils

Some believe this is dealing with salvation and the reception of the Gospel (*my view*)

*“ . . . . . the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.”*

Luke 8: 12

Many Christians can identify these soils in their own faith walk

**I do not know where you are on your faith journey; *all I can say is, don't give up, keep going!***

**Jesus is real! His peace is real, His joy is real,  
His provision is real, His presence is real!**

**With all my heart I urge you to say “*yes*” to Jesus and start to live the life that God has planned for you!**

**Serving our Lord is the greatest thing in my life!**

**It is an honor to serve ONE so loving and kind!**

All I can say is . . . . .

**JESUS IS THE SWEETEST NAME I KNOW!**

**HOPEFULLY, YOU CAN SAY THE SAME!**