

Doctrine of Salvation

Matthew 13: 18-23

18 “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path.”

A Mediocre Reaction

The person who has a mediocre reaction never receives the gospel counting the cost for life transformation. A person in this category may not consider the gospel as important. They may feel the gospel is mundane, not life changing, or that it doesn't apply to them. Often, some people who feel this way never hear that Jesus loves them so much that He died for them regardless of their past. In reality, we all come to Christ as sinners, but He doesn't leave us the same!

Psalm 14:1 *“The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.”*

20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.

A Selfishly Motivated Response

The self-centered, motivated person is only engaged in growing in Christ when it is convenient for them. The cost of following Jesus has never been counted in regards to losing ones' life for the gospel. They may intellectually think that following Christ is a great idea, but trials prove that there is no heart transformation.

Mark 8:34-35 *“And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.”*

22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

A Materialistic Reality

The materialistic type person has made possessions and self-centered passions their priority, not following Jesus.

Mark 8:36-37 *“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul?”*

23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

A Resolution of Multiplication

The person who sees the value of multiplication for God's glory and the advancement of God's Kingdom, is striving to live a Biblical, Christ-centered life.

Matthew 28:19-20 *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Acts 1:8 *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

Mark 1:17 *“And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”*