

Sown on Good Ground

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Mark 4:3/20. "Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow: 8. And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred."

Jesus came to the seed that fell on good ground in his parable. It was taking root and growing up a good and healthy plant. There were no rocks to prevent the roots from going deep. It has escaped the wayside and had not been carried away by the fowls of the air. Then it was free from the thorns that would have choked it. This seed had all the right conditions and it showed it by producing fruit.

We know that Jesus was talking about the person who had the kind of heart that was like the good ground. There is so much similarity between the seed and the person. There were three kinds

of ground that he spoke of before he got to the one about the good ground. The three had one thing in common, they failed to live and to produce.

However, the good ground took the seed and caused it to grow. First it put down roots. It was not carried away by the fowls of the air. The seed of God's Word took root in the heart and was not crushed, or carried away by some distraction, or trial. It took root and the result was that the knowledge of God grew in the good ground, or the good heart. The seed was watered and cared for by the sincere believer and it showed by its growth.

The stones didn't keep it from growing. There are many things that will keep us from putting down roots if we let them. Some times folks have had to clear stones out of a piece of ground to have a garden there. The same goes for us if there is things that will keep us from growing in, and living for Jesus, then we need to remove these "stones" from our lives and hearts.

When we likewise remove the thorns we will have a heart that can grow in grace and knowledge of God. This is what is necessary for us to be a mature believer in the Lord. I know that there are plenty

of people who say that all you have to do is to say that you believe, but the bible tells us to grow spiritually. Jesus said to search the scriptures and to learn of him. We can't do the will of God if we don't know it. There are so many things that will interfere in our spiritual lives if we are not careful. Things can slip in and not seem to bad at first, but will take more and more of our time away from God.

I hope that we all want to be likened to the good ground. There the seed which is the Word of God, is able to take root and grow in our lives. When it does and produces fruit there is a blessing for us in the Lord. As the ground is a receptacle for the seed, so are we for the Word of God. In our hearts and lives it will either be choked out, or can grow and be fruitful. It really is up to us and what we think of the Lord and his word.

To be the good ground we may need to break up the hard ground, remove the stones, and cut out the thorns that fight against the Word. Just remember this, God asks us to give up only the things that are hurtful to us, and when we do, there is a blessing for us. God blesses those who not only believe in him, but who also live for him and obey his word.

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456 Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

ABRAHAM'S BATTLE WITH THE FIVE KINGS
BECAUSE ABRAHAM'S AND LOT'S HERDS HAVE GROWN SO LARGE THE SHEEP MUST SCRAMBLE FOR THE BEST GRASS WHEREVER THE TWO HERDS GRAZE. NOW THE HERDSMEN BEGIN TO FIGHT FOR THE GRAZING...



I MUST TELL FATHER ABRAHAM ALL THAT IS HAPPENING!

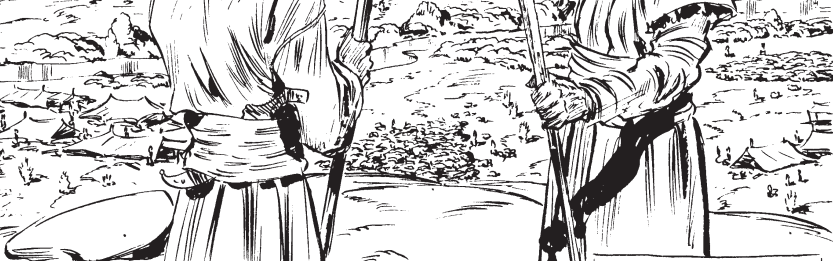
...AND THERE IS GREAT STRIFE BETWEEN LOT'S HERDSMEN AND OUR MEN!

I MUST TALK TO MY NEPHEW LOT!

LET THERE BE NO STRIFE BETWEEN ME AND THEE, OR BETWEEN OUR HERDMEN - FOR WE BE BRETHREN!



AND ABRAHAM SHOWS LOT ALL THE LAND THAT LIES BEFORE THEM, TELLING HIM THAT IF LOT CHOOSES TO DEPART TO THE LEFT HE WILL GO THE RIGHT BUT LOT MAY HAVE THE FIRST CHOICE OF ALL THIS ABUNDANT LAND...



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