

# 3 Blessings To Those Who Hear

Luke 8:1-21

Luke 8:1-3 ESV Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, 2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

**Luke 8:4-8 ESV** And when **a great crowd was gathering** and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: (5) "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell **along** the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. (6) And some fell **on** the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. (7) And some fell **among** thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. (8) And some fell **into** good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

He is speaking to the **Individual** in the midst of the crowd

- "**He**" who has ears to hear - HE is an individual

This is a parable about **HEARING**

- **He who has an ear to hear** - "Let Him Hear" (example Dad - "do you hear me?")
- 9 times these verses speak about hearing (8 --- 10 --- 12 --- 13 --- 14 --- 15 --- 18 --- 21)

**Luke 8:9-10 ESV** And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, (10) he said, "To you it has been given **to know the secrets of the kingdom of God**, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and **hearing they may not understand**.'

#1 THE FIRST BLESSING FOR THOSE WHO HEAR - secrets of kingdom

- Matthew 13:16 But **BLESSED** are your eyes, for they see; **and your ears, for they hear**. For verily I say unto you, that many prophets and righteous men desired to see the things which ye see, and saw them not; and to hear the things which ye hear, and heard them not."

The Contrast of those who are dull of hearing

- Act 28:26-27 KJV 26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: 27 For **the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed**; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

## The Seed is the Word (this is what we are to hear)

Luk 8:11 Now the parable is this: **The seed is the word of God.**

- A SEED is an embryonic plant
- **Potential** to grow into the same kind of plant that it came from
  - 1Pe 1:23 KJV Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
- The idea is that the seed would create His life in me

## The Seed is Perfect - But I can Nullify Its Effect

- While the seed [Word] has potential to powerfully affect my life --- **I can nullify it**

### A. ALONG The Path

Luk 8:5 "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell **along** the path and was **trampled underfoot**, and the birds of the air devoured it...Luk 8:12 ESV The ones **along** the path are those **who have heard**; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

### **To be trampled underfoot is [Strong's] to Reject with Disdain - NO VALUE**

- Mat 5:13 ESV "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and **trampled under people's feet.**
- Mat 7:6 ESV "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they **trample them underfoot** and turn to attack you. The seed was **trampled underfoot** - not held as valuable

## How Do These Hear - they see no value in the word

- Job - More than my necessary food
- As newborn babes - desire the sincere milk of the word

### B. On the Rock -(HOW DO THESE HEAR?)

(6) And some fell on the rock, and *as it grew up, it withered away*, because it had no moisture.  
13 And the ones on the rock are those who, when they **hear** the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away.

## How Do These Hear - At first receive with joy - but no root - unable to stand through the trial --

### **In Time of Testing They Fall Away (no moisture, no root)**

- Jas 1:2-4 ESV Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith **produces steadfastness**. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

- **Trials are meant to produce STEADFASTNESS - yet some fall away**
- **The same event can make some strong and others give up**
- **Job and his wife**
  - They both experienced the same trial
    - one had no root - why don't you curse God and die (Job 2:9)
    - one trusted the LORD - (Job 13:15) Though he slay me yet will I trust Him
- **Send out roots by trusting in the LORD**
  - Jer 17:7-8 ESV "Blessed is the man **who trusts in the LORD**, whose trust is the LORD. 8 He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

### C. Among The Thorns- (HOW DO THESE HEAR?)

(7) And some fell **among** thorns, and the thorns ***grew up with it*** and choked it

14 And as for what fell **among** the thorns, they are those who **hear**, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.

- In the course of life "**as they go on their way**" - cares, riches and pleasures choke it

### How Do These Hear Cares - Riches and Pleasures - the idea of distraction

- Luk 21:34-35 ESV "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and **cares** of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

### D. In Good Soil-(HOW DO THESE HEAR?)

15 As for that in the good soil, they are those who, **hearing** the word, **hold it fast** in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with **patience**.

### The Good Soil seems to counteract the other three

1. **Hold it fast** - places value on it
2. **Good** - Martha distracted - Mary chose the good part... Good overcomes the thorns
3. **Bears fruit with Patience** - patient in trial - endure the trials of the rocky soil
  - Rom 12:12 ESV Rejoice in hope, be **patient in tribulation**, be constant in prayer.

## BLESSING #2 FOR THOSE WHO HEAR

Luke 8:16 "No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but **puts it on a stand**, so that those who enter may see the light.

- We would not hide the light of a candle under the bed - why would we hide the light of God's word -- hearing the word and doing nothing with it is the same as lighting a candle and putting it under a bushel
- Word is a lamp to my feet a guide to my path (Psalm 119:105)

Luke 8:17 For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, ***nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.*** (see vs 10 Secrets of the Kingdom)

- Nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest
  - The secrets of the mysteries
  - greater revelation of the truth for fruitfulness
- Psa 119:130 KJV The **entrance of thy words giveth light**; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Luke 8:18 Take care then **how you hear**, for to the one who has, ***more will be given***, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

- Hearing / obeying the word is like like exercising a muscle - the more you use it the stronger it gets
- Joh 16:12-3 ESV "I still have many things to say to you, but **you cannot bear them now**. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
- Hebrews 5:11 KJV Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing **ye are dull of hearing**.

## BLESSING #3 FOR THOSE WHO HEAR

### A special relationship to Jesus' family

**Luk 8:19-21 ESV** 19 Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. 20 And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you." 21 But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."