

**THE SOWER SOWS THE WORD**  
**MESSAGE 8: DEVELOPING GOOD GROUND, PART 3**  
**[30 APRIL 2023]**

• **FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURE:**

- **Matthew 13:22 (sowing among thorns)**
  - **Thorns:** cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches and lust for other things [these are spiritual thorns]
- **Mark 4:19** [thorns entering in or allowed to enter in]

I. **Sowing Among Thorns [BLESSING Blockers]**

- a. Mark 4:18-19
  - i. The Thorns are described in Verse 19
- b. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
  - i. Verse 4: The Armor of God which is the Word of God is our weapons in which to fight the devil's trials (Ephesians 6)
  - ii. Verse 5: "casting down" = put the Word of God in and cast out the doubt and unbelief
  - iii. Lester Sumeral = "Feed your faith and starve your doubts"

II. **Heed What You Hear and How You Hear it:**

- a. Mark 4:13-20, 24
  - i. Verse 24: Heed = observe, pay close attention to
    - 1. A serious, steady (or continual) look
    - 2. Look = to anticipate an event with a joyful preparation
- b. Luke 8:10-15, 18
- c. Matthew 13:17-23
- d. Proverbs 4:13, 18, 20-27
  - i. Verse 13: the Bible & Church time are instruction time, aids & manuals for life in the Kingdom of God
  - ii. Every increase in "Light" is an increase in "FAITH"
  - iii. Verse 23: (Luke 9:62) And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.
  - iv. Verse 23: (1Corinthians 9:10) [The Message] Don't you think his concern extends to us? Of course. Farmers plow and thresh expecting something when the crop comes in.

### III. Developing GOOD Ground

- a. Mark 4:20
- b. What does it take to make the ground productive?
  - i. 2 Timothy 2:15-16
  - ii. Joshua 1:8
  - iii. Psalm 1:1-3
- c. God Gave us His Word to:
  - i. Build Faith (Romans 10:17)
  - ii. Build Spiritual Strength [Joy]
    - 1. Ephesians 3:16-17
    - 2. John 15:11 = God's Spoken Word should bring Joy
      - a. Most are waiting for results for Joy to set in
    - 3. Traditions of Men should be fought like we fight sin
      - a. Mark 7:13
      - b. Colossians 2:8
      - c. We have to ask ourselves; "is what is being taught scriptural truth?"
  - iii. 2 Timothy 3:5 = the form of godliness that denies the Power of is Religion (a rootless foundation of Christianity) that has no stability
    - 1. The error in the Sovereignty of God
    - 2. Sovereignty of God = God makes the Laws and He follows His own Laws and expects us to do likewise
- d. Ephesians 6:14
- e. (Eph 6:14) [Amplified Classic Version] Stand therefore [*hold your ground*], having tightened the belt of truth around your loins and having put on the breastplate of integrity *and* of moral rectitude *and* right standing with God,
  - i. Loins = the place of generative Power (the place where God's Power is Generated in our life: THE HEART (Spirit of Man))
  - ii. Integrity = wholeness, an unbroken state, unimpaired state
  - iii. The Whole Armor Starts with the TRUTH