

It's a Dirty Job but...

...somebody's gotta do it. Someone has to be about spreading the seed of the kingdom.

Luk 8:4 And when much people were gathered together, and were come to Him out of every city, He spake by a parable:

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

- Just as seed corn doesn't produce asparagus so the word cannot produce lies when it is sown in truth!

Luk 8:5 A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell **by the way side**; and it was **trodden down** (*Gk.2662- to trample down; figuratively to reject with disdain*), and the **fowls of the air devoured it.**

Luk 8:12 Those **by the way side** are they that hear; **then cometh the devil**, and **taketh away the word out of their hearts** (*Gk.2588- [figuratively] the thoughts and feelings*), lest they should believe and be saved.

- **Satan** has a way to make new converts feel ashamed of their new found beliefs. Just when they're thinking on what they've done and the changes they're about to experience he brings into mind how much they'll miss their old friends and lifestyle. If we're not careful we can lose those new babes in **Christ** when we forget that part in the great commission that states that **after** conversion we are to continually teach "**them all things whatsoever**" Jesus commanded. The time may come when they might run into some of their old friends and by then they'll need to be into the meat of the word.

1Pe 4:4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with *them* to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of *you*:

"Hey, what's the matter with you? You're not the same fun person you used to be. What happened? Did you 'find religion'?" These same friends could be the "**fowls of the air**" that would devour them by carrying them back into their old way of life never to think on the "*mistake*" they made in being converted in the first place.

Luk 8:6 And some fell **upon a rock**; and **as soon as** it was **sprung up**, it **withered away**, because it **lacked moisture.**

Luk 8:13 They **on the rock** are they, which, when they hear (*Gk.191- to hear: understand*), receive (*Gk.1209- accept*) the word with joy; and these **have no root**, which **for a while believe**, and in **time of temptation fall away.**

- Just as when a gardener plants a garden full of beautiful flowers and forgets to water it, so it is when a new **Christian** isn't nurtured along after being "newly planted". As **Christians** in no matter what stage we all need to be constantly watered, nurtured and encouraged so that the roots of the word can grow deeper and deeper into our minds. Without that consistent feeding of the word, again at no matter what stage of growth, anyone can lose their faith and once subjected to temptation can wither away and be lost.

2Pe 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Luk 8:7 And some **fell among thorns**; and the thorns **sprang up** with it, and **choked it**.

Luk 8:14 And that which **fell among thorns** are they, which, when they have heard, **go forth**, and are **choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life**, and bring no fruit to perfection.

- Thorns, just like sin, aren't supposed to be pleasant but in this case where Satan is involved the opposite is true. It's sad when people go out into the work-a-day world in pursuit of wealth or have their sights set on the weekend or on some vacation far away from home and are not in the least mindful of their own eternal destinies.

Luk 9:25 For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

Luk 21:34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts (*Gk.2588- minds*) be overcharged with surfeiting (*Gk.2897- properly a headache [as seizure of pain] from drunkenness*), and drunkenness, and **cares of this life**, and so that day (*the day the kingdom of God would appear*) come upon you unawares.

- Just as there were many people then who missed the kingdom because of the cares of the world that blinded them to its coming, so today there are the majority who will miss their opportunity to be added to it because of the present day worldly distractions.

Mar 10:17 And when He was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to Him, and asked Him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? 18 And Jesus said unto him, **Why callest thou Me good? there is none good but One, that is, God.** 19 Thou knowest the commandments, **Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.** 20 And he answered and said unto Him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. 21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, **One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.** 22 And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

Joh 6:27 **Labour not** for the meat which **perishes, but** for that meat which endures unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for Him hath God the Father sealed.

Luk 12:13 And one of the company said unto Him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me. 14 And He said unto him, **Man, who made Me a judge or a divider over you?** 15 And He said unto them, **Take heed, and beware of**

covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesses. 16 And He spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. 20 But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? 21 So *is* he that lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Luk 12:22 And He said unto His disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. 23 The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment. 24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them: how much more are ye better than the fowls? 25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? 26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? 27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will He clothe* you, O ye of little faith? 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. 31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

- Jesus wasn't saying to just give up work and be idle here. He was trying to get them to keep things in context.

Luk 8:8 And other fell on **good ground**, and **sprang up** (*Gk.5453- to swell up; to germinate or grow [sprout, produce]*), and **bear fruit** an hundredfold. And when He had said these things, He cried, He that hath ears to hear (*Gk.191- to hear*), let him hear (*Gk.191- understand*).

Luk 8:15 But that on the **good ground** are they, which in an **honest** and **good heart**, **having heard** the word, **keep** (*Gk.2722- to hold down [fast], in various applications [literally or figuratively]: keep[in memory], possess, retain*) it, and **bring forth fruit** with patience.

- When a farmer plants his seed in well cultivated and fertile soil he knows he'll get a good crop. The more fertile the soil the more crop he'll get. So it is with the word of God. Once a faithful Christian truly understands what God gave in exchange for his soul he will take hold of the plow and grasp the word in studying it daily, cultivating it and by it become even more fruitful in making more disciples.

Luk 8:9 And His disciples asked Him, saying, What might this parable be? 10 And He said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing (*Gk.191- beware*) they might not see (*Gk.191- perceive*), and hearing (*Gk.191- give audience*) they might not understand (*Gk.4920- to put together, that is, [mentally] to comprehend*).

- Jesus was here separating the “men from the boys” so to speak.

Joh 6:60 Many therefore of His disciples, when they had heard *this (Jesus calling Himself the manna from heaven)*, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear (*Gk.191-understand*) it?

Joh 6:66 From that *time* many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him. **67** Then said Jesus unto the twelve, **Will ye also go away?** **68** Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. **69** And we believe and are sure that Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

Luk 8:16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle (*Gk.3088- a portable lamp*), covered it with a vessel, or putteth *it* under a bed; but sets *it* on a candlestick (*Gk.3087- lamp stand*), that they which enter in may see the light. **17** For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither *anything* hid, that shall not be known and come abroad. **18** Take heed therefore how ye hear (*Gk.191- understand*): for whosoever hath (*pertains to the immediate context i.e. understanding*), to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemed to have.

- Anyone who has at least some understanding on which to build, more will be given to that person. But because understanding is something pursued the person who has none is the one who will lose even that which he/she “seems” to have.

Luk 8:19 Then came to Him *His* mother and His brethren, and could not come at Him for the press. **20** And it was told Him *by certain* which said, Thy mother and Thy brethren stand without, desiring to see Thee. **21** And He answered and said unto them, **My mother and My brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.**

- If we wish to be related to Jesus we need to get our hands dirty. After all, it’s a dirty job, but...Jesus did die in our stead and it should be up to us to get our hands at least a little dirty in spreading the seed (a.k.a. the word of God).

Heb 2:11 For both He that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified *are* all of one: for which cause He is **not ashamed to call them brethren**, **12** Saying, I will declare Thy name unto **My brethren, in the midst of the church** will I sing praise unto Thee.

Luk 9:26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He shall come in His own glory, and *in His* Father's, and of the holy angels.

Hear: **Romans 10:17** ..."faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Believe: **Heb 11:6** ..."for he that commeth to God must believe that He is"...

Repent: **Lk 13:3** ..."except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Confess: **Mat 10:32** "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father which is in Heaven."

Be baptized: **Acts 2:38** ..."repent and be baptized...in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"...

Remain faithful: **Rom 6:4** ..."even so we also should walk in newness of life."

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