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Tangled

Luke 8:5-8

“A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown.” When he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Here we see 4 areas where the seed was sown.

- 1.) Along the path
- 2.) Among the rock
- 3.) Among the thorns
- 4.) And the good soil

The focus of this teaching is simply on the seed that was sown among the thorns.

Before we go too far here, let us not forget the closing statement given to this parable.

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

This is very similar to that which Yeshua also says to the 7 churches. Compare...

Revelation 2:7

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;

So let's be attentive to what the Spirit is saying to us today through His word.

Let us cut to the chase and look at the meaning that Yeshua gave us to this verse regarding the seed among the thorns...

Luke 8:14

The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

“stands for those who hear”

So, what does this mean?

The Greek word for “hear” ἀκούω/santeß - akousantes means “to hear, to heed, to obey”

So they hear and understand the word of God. And even begin the journey of obedience to the word of God. But the weeds of life come in and choke it.

We must understand that this is a process. Weeds don't instantly appear. They can definitely grow fast. They still have to grow, though.

But what are the weeds of life? Life's worries, riches and pleasures.

So what about you? Are you pursuing obedience to God's word? If so, where do you stand with life's worries, riches and pleasures?

This is serious. Please don't brush this aside as something elementary. One fourth of the seeds that were planted are considered worthless as a result of these three things.

Though, for many, these three things are all normally tied together. Yet, they actually can stand independent of each other.

For example, you don't have to be rich to be greedy. You can pursue pleasures and not have a lot of money. And no one is exempt from the temptation of worry.

So... heart check. Remember... You need to be honest here. You can deceive those around you, but you'll never deceive the Father.

Do you struggle with worry? Even just a little? Do you have to be in control? Can you trust in all circumstances? Control is a form of greed. Think about that for a moment.

What about riches? You don't have to have money for money to have you. And riches doesn't have to be money. It can be just owning things.

Keeping up with the neighbor next door. Or even trying to get ahead of others and focused on staying that way.

The second you see that someone has something do you say that you HAVE to have that. Or even a one that is even better.

Do you feel you “deserve” a certain thing more than someone else? For whatever the reason may be.

Many say they don't have to have things to make them happy, but they're actions and attitudes say differently. Does always having the "best" of things drive you. Do they make you feel better? Remember... they're just things.

What about the pleasures of life. Everyone has different "pleasures" that they pursue. From different foods, habits, hobbies, addictions, you name it.

What's yours? Can you control your lust after these pleasures? Or are they controlling you? Think about that for a moment. Are you controlling them? Or are they controlling you? Do you fall prey to every temptation or can you stand under the pressure? Pleasure is SO temporary and focused on the moment.

In fact, the other two are temporary as well if you think about it.

Matthew 6:27

Who can add to their life by worrying?

And the thing you are worrying about today will eventually be gone and then there will be a new situation arise.

- And once you get the latest "thing" that you want, there will be another to come. And then another. And then still another.

Just because you are pursuing the Truth, it doesn't mean that these things are not choking your life. These things make it to where you never mature in your walk with the Father.

Which begs the question, what does it really mean to mature?

We ask that you be honest with yourself on this teaching. And consider the words of Paul as you do.

Romans 12:3

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: **Do not think** of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

How many read the Scriptures from the perspective that "We're OK"?

Luke 8:14

The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are **choked** by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature.

We pray that as we all pursue after the Father that we do not allow ourselves to get entangled in these things that choke our maturity in Him and could possibly even be that which keeps us from Him.

We pray that you have enjoyed this brief message.

Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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