

HOW IS YOUR SOIL?

We are going to continue to learn how God intended for us to receive from Him. According to Jesus the key is belief.

Mark 9:23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

The limitation is never on God's end, whatever promise of God you can believe for you can have.

God created a law that would allow us to develop belief and allow us to receive from him.

The law of conception.

1) The Word of God is like seed that always produces after its own kind.

Luke 1:37 AMPC For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.

2) The heart is the place where the seed is conceived.

Matthew 12:35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

Your heart is always going to produce whatever seed is planted, the source of the seed will produce result.

Jesus teaches about what impacts the harvest.

Matthew 13:3-8 3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. 6 But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. 8 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

When Jesus is talking about the harvest, he is talking about the abundant life that he has created for us.

Jesus is saying that the condition of the soil will determine the harvest.

Matthew 13:18-23 “Therefore hear the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. 20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. 22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. 23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

Let’s examine the first type of soil.

1) The wayside: Matthew 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart.

This first type of soil doesn’t produce a harvest! Why?

Because the seed doesn’t stay in the soil long enough to reach conception and produce a harvest.

Who stole the seed? Satan.

John 10:10a The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

How does Satan steal the word?

Satan’s only power is craftiness and deception.

The word crafty means: cunning, skillful in devising and pursuing a scheme by taking advantage of ignorance or lack of knowledge.

Deception: The act of causing someone to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid.

The word for *understanding* that Jesus uses here is spiritual understanding. Satan deceives us by coming against our spiritual understanding.

Two kingdoms: two types of knowledge.

Crown jewel of creation.

The moment you got born again you ceased to be just a natural man, and you became a supernatural man. The spirit of the living God came to recreate you, you were conformed into the image of God.

Now you live simultaneously in both the natural and supernatural world.

1) Natural knowledge

In the natural world understanding comes through logic and reason, this can only be obtained through physical evidence. First you are introduced to a math concept called addition then they show you physical evidence $2 \text{ apples} + 2 \text{ apples} = 4$ and understanding comes. Natural understanding requires the validation of the 5 senses in order to believe.

2) Spiritual knowledge.

In the spiritual world knowledge comes through faith.

Faith is the supernatural ability to believe and act upon what you cannot see.

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Faith is based on the integrity of God's word.

Hebrews 6:13-20 TPT Now when God made a promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater than himself, he swore an oath on his own integrity to keep the promise as sure as God exists! So he said, "Have no doubt, I promise to bless you over and over, and give you a son and multiply you without measure!" So Abraham waited patiently in faith and succeeded in seeing the promise fulfilled. It is very common for people to swear an oath by something greater than themselves, for the oath will confirm their statements and end all dispute. So in the same way, God wanted to end all doubt and confirm it even more forcefully to those who would inherit his promises. His purpose was unchangeable, so God added his vow to the promise. So it is impossible for God to lie for we know that his promise and his vow will never change!

Faith requires you to believe something that has no physical evidence.

Mark 11:24 KJV Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

Jesus is saying that you have to believe that you have it when you pray. Not when you see or feel it. You have to believe you have it first and then you will have it.

How does Satan steal the word from us?

1) He convinces us that God has not fulfilled his promises.

Most of us have been taught that God can do anything, but he has done very little.

Salvation means that Jesus came to forgive our sin so we can go to heaven, yet all of the other redemptive promises like, healing, deliverance, restoration and freedom are yet to be fulfilled.

2 Corinthians 1:20 For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory.

You cannot have faith for something that hasn't already been provided.

2) He convinces us to use our natural tools of logic and reason to deny the supernatural.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Paul is saying that the person that operates with natural knowledge (logic and reason) cannot receive the promises of God! Because he doesn't believe anything that he can't see, taste, hear, smell or feel.

If Satan can get the church to reject the supernatural he wins. God is supernatural so the supernatural is the only way he can reveal himself. (Theology)