

The Thorny Soil and the Good Soil – 062605

- Joshua Daniel

Luke 8th chapter please and here the lord Jesus Christ said some seed fell among the thorny bushes where there are hidden sins there will be no fruit. In the island in which I preached, I preached 3 nights in one island and just as I was about to depart the island I was told revival has broken out. People have been putting things right, breaking their, smashing their pipes, burning their tobacco and then what happened? The local Inn keeper he lost his regulars. They were a hard drinking people. Dear friends you know if we prepare our hearts it should not take so long for god's power to propel you into action: should not take such a long time. The third soil the lord Jesus said, some seed fell among thorns and the thorns sprang up and choked the seed. So that it became unfruitful and the lord Jesus explained this by saying the cares of the world, the deceitfulness of riches and the lusts of other things. Oh my, how many psycho somatic deceases? You know they go to the doctor and doctor runs them through a whole gamut of tests and says nothing is wrong with you medically, go to the psychiatrist and the psychiatrist puts you on a dose of one of those drugs and you get hooked. My dear friends, this is the story all over. No peace, no love, no harmony. The net result is heavy tension, much stress and following that the body begins to wilt. The mind begins to blur and you cease to function. Those thorny bushes should be pulled up by the root. One of the beautiful man that I knew was a professor of dentistry. This man got interested in the gospel, purely because he saw healing, oh my as a student in the dental college, he got a lung decease which kept him in hospital 6 months I believe and they aspirated so much fluid out of the lungs and then my dad prayed for him and he was healed and this man therefore became a patron of Jesus Christ. See! Jesus heals. Did Jesus ever ask for patrons? No. did he call for donors? No. today we have too many people who patronize the lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ only calls for disciples and let me tell you this: for his yoke is easy and his burden is light. I can tell you this because I have born this yoke now for more than 60 years. It's a beautiful yoke and a wonderful master to serve. I have no regrets. Only one regret; I wish I had served him better. Much,

Much better as he deserves to be served. Gentleman became a professor and began to earn a lot of money and he said, when he went into clinic he used to mentally make a note, I have so many patients today so I am going to make so much money and if one of his patients however much he was suffering should have come without the requisites some of money, he would say, out you go, go home get the money and then I'll treat you. Hard man! Money makes people hard people. You know today, in the family, the wife peradventure earns little more than her husband, tragedy of tragedies. She will say hey, don't you touch my purse. I am literally supporting you so you keep to your place. Well, now that's neither the bible language nor the possession which is the honored place of a mother in the home. You see today's people began to despise motherhood and you know when you begin to despise motherhood, some boy said to me, I don't relate to my mother, I don't know my father. What you do with such creatures? You have to clamp them in prison and that's not going to cure them either. When they come out they become worst criminals. Well my dear friends, to go back to this gentleman, this time he came and heard god's word while I was preaching, repented, turned to the lord, made restitutions, went back to the tax people, this man after his conversion, he came to me one day, he said I understand that you are going to have a campaign in my home town, I said yes, It is a very turbulent place, it's a very political place, very heathen place with idols everywhere, yes we are going to have meetings right in the heart of your city and preach Christ and he said to me I want to foot the whole bill for the meetings. I said no, I can't let you do that, No I want to pay the travel and the whole bill, it's my town, I have the money, I want to do it. I could not refuse it. He was so insistent, so firm. Anyway it was his privilege to do so. God is no man's debtor. A work began and work continues. And you know after a series of meetings I find that fire begins to burn in the hearts and they are transformed and they go out and win souls. Look at the transformation. A covetous, greedy man getting the last coin out of his patients turned into a man who says I am going to serve; I am going to lift others. I don't like to you the word sacrifice because I have eliminated the word sacrifice, thrown it out from my vocabulary. Why? Whatever I may do for Jesus it's nothing. Against the back drop of Calvary, whatever I might do for Jesus simply nothing. He died for you and me. We owe this love, we owe this service, and whatever I do for

him, I do it as a big debtor, not as a donors. So friends, look at this new heart. Last of all I want you to look at the scripture, Luke 8th chapter please and here the 4th soil, the 15th verse: but on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. The seed which fell on good ground are they which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it. They are not then like the coca cola fizz! You know what happens, I wonder, sometimes I say what is happening. You know folks, the word of god, if it is really the word of god and not some showmanship or some clowny or some playing to the gallery. If it truly the word of God, there will be continuance, there will be blessing. You know people tell me long after the meetings, how god touched them. How god spoke to them. Yes this is a work which he ought to do. I am only a very small operator in the whole operation. I am nobody. And they bring forth fruit with patients, love, joy, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, temperance, meekness. Today, we don't see people exercising too much temperance. They say drinking is approaching an epidemic. Binge drinking they call it and some of those girls and boys, after their parties at school and college, next day they are not even able to say what happened to them. Oh when I woke up I found myself naked and you know all that follows. Now are these the ones that are going to lead the nation? Are they going to be the civilians? That means civil servants? And the top people? What kind of health will they render to a nation? Oh my! And this is spreading, an epidemic indeed. Can't he change you? Can't he change many through you; can't he bring such a blessing? Oh listen, we must get real. You know this shouting, dancing, all that kind of thing may go on in dance hall but in the presence of God what is needed is God working. God at work.