

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 8:1-15

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## "IS THIS YOUR HEART?" – PART 4

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,  
THE SON OF GOD, AND THE SON OF MAN*

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SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Fruitfulness, The Heart, The Word, Salvation**

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The Christian Life and Experience

is Often Described In Terms That We Can relate to;

In Illustrative Terms Like - A King and His Kingdom or  
A Shepherd and His Sheep or a Farmer and His Crops

### **An Illustration is to Present a Truth**

The Kingdom - Protection and Tranquility for His Subjects

The Shepherd - Safety and Guidance for the Sheep

The farmer - crops well-tended and productive

The Bible is a Book of Salvation, of Love, and of Meaning.

#### **Luke 8:4-10**

And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a **parable**: **5** "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. **6** Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. **7** And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. **8** But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" **:9** Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" **:10** And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest *it is given* in parables, that '*Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.*' **:11** "**Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.** **12** Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. **13** But the ones on the rock *are those* who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. **14** Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life,

and bring no fruit to maturity. **15** But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

## We Now Come to Part 4 - the finality of this Parable

**Luke 8:8,15**

But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" ... **15** But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

### IS THIS YOUR HEART?

**1.) A heart able to produce**

**v.8a**

But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold."

**1a.) It's able because of the soil**

**v.8**

But others fell on good ground

### The Making of the Ground (heart)

the things of life that create character and depth.  
the greatest soils are made under the most difficult situations

what has been California's gold  
it's ground - volcano's / flooding / extreme changes  
all these things add the messaging of a life, softening it, preparing it.

**Acts 14:22**

strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting *them* to continue in the faith, and *saying*, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

**John 16:33**

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

every time you and I go thru some difficulty, of the mind, or body or spirit - - know this;

**the Lord is turning over the soil and preparing  
us for a coming season**

so that we will be able to produce a greater crop.

if the earth could think,  
imagine what kind of thoughts it would have?

it's so hot, why's it so cold? it's too wet, it's dry  
why can't I live in Hawaii like that dirt over there does?

## A HEART ABLE TO PRODUCE

**1b.) It's able because of the seed**

**v.8**

the seed "sprang up,"

**If The Crop Should Fail  
it's Not Because God Did Not Do His Part.**

I am always amazed at the miraculous genius of God.

it's a mathematical certainty that if you were handed just one kernel of corn and you planted it, harvested it, planted again, and repeated that step, you could feed the world, there wouldn't be one hungry person on the planet if politics didn't get involved in what God desires to do.

note that the seed (the word) the (Bible) is the same.

it is forever the same. it is the soil in which it lands is the variable.

**so then, the seed judges every bit of soil that it lands in.**

the Bible, God's word, judges every heart.

as a pastor // people fight with me about the things of life

I say to them, "you shouldn't be sleeping with your neighbor's wife, you're an adulterer"... and glory be to God, instantly they become an expert on the Bible and say... **you're judging me, you're not supposed to judge me.**

**I can't judge you, never would seek to,**

it's the word of God that judges you and God has the final word.

*Verse 8*

the seed "sprang up,"

**Matthew 13:4**

And "when" or "as" he sowed"

## **generosity is Implied. the sower went forth to sow.**

sowing the seed was his intention, it's what he wanted to do. He expected a return for his efforts.

### **James 5:7**

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See *how* the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. :8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

## **A HEART ABLE TO PRODUCE**

**1c.) *It's able because of the situation***

**v.8**

and yielded a crop a hundredfold.”

## **a productive Christian life**

comes through life's struggles - there is no other way.

### ***This Bible, Our God is Reality***

God's word is effective because it fits our life's situations.

but we won't know that without two ingredients;

#1 - Knowing the Bible & #2 - Having Troubles

these things translate into victories and fruitfulness

**the more fruit you see in a person's life,  
*the more struggles they've endured.***

Spiritual Fruit Comes Because There Are Seasons in Life

*that cause the fruit to be created*

## **Look Around This Church Today**

look at all the orange trees out there and look at all the oranges - the seasonal elements, the soil, the water, the wind... all these things created situations that made fruit bearing possible!

## **A HEART ABLE TO PRODUCE**

is a heart that looks for spiritual opportunities to invest in, to the advancement of the kingdom.

**to be an able heart means that...**

is to understand that it's not about you - it's about Christ

you understand that what you have in this life - really belongs to Him

and you understand that eternity is the target - this life is an opportunity.

## **There are Rich People and There are Wealthy People Then There's Blessed People**

**blessed** people are **rich toward God** and don't care what they have.  
**blessed** people are **wealthy toward others** because God owns everything they have

### **IS THIS YOUR HEART?**

#### **2.) *A heart willing to learn***

**v.8b**

When He had said these things He cried out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

#### **2a.) *To learn that The Lord is Master***

**v.8b**

and When He had said these things **He cried out!**

This is "Thus Saith the Lord"  
This is the Voice of the Almighty God of the Bible

He doesn't thunder condemnation, He doesn't shout a curse, **He cries out...**

**IT'S AN INVITATION THAT HE MAKES PUBLIC**  
and it's **passionate** and it's **vulnerable**

He is Master, not by tyranny, not by force.  
the Lord is master over subjects that have willingly come to Him.

His Followers, Willing Come to Him  
His Disciples Pay No Fee  
His Children Know no Rejection

### **A HEART WILLING TO LEARN**

#### **2b.) *To learn that the Lord is Host***

**v.8b**

He cried out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

He is the Great Invite-tor of Any Heart

#### **1 Thessalonians 2:13**

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

**1 Peter 1:22-25**

Now that you have purified yourselves by **obeying the truth** so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. **:23** For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. **:24** For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, **:25** but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

**2c.) To learn that the Lord is King**

**v.8b**

When He had said these things He cried out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

**Can You Hear The Lord in That?**

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Christian worker, remember this - 25% of the hearers are doers  
**25%** bear fruit through to the end  
**25%** are saved believers having faith in Christ  
**25%** make it to heaven in the end.

church / don't be so shocked -  
it was never about numbers and crowds

**To learn that the Lord is King**

"The gospel goes against all odds and against all powers  
it's the simple message of the gospel to those who are listening.  
it cannot be stopped, it will never be silenced, it will not cease."

for Jesus Said;

**Matthew 24:35**

Heaven and earth will pass away,  
but My words will by no means pass away.

What You Believe Will Soon Be Tested - *like never before in your life!*

**IS THIS YOUR HEART?**

**3.) A heart desiring to abide**

**v.15**

But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who,  
having heard the word with a noble and good heart,  
**keep it and bear fruit with patience.**

with a noble and good heart,  
a heart open to being corrected, instructed, guided, led,

This Is That New Heart That is Given to Every True Believer in  
Jesus Christ.  
This is The Born Again Heart of a New Man

**Ezekiel 36:26**

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your  
flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

a **tender** heart toward God, a **submissive** heart,  
an **obedient** heart

An "Allowance" Heart

(meaning; there's room for God in this heart)

Verse 15

But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who,  
having heard the word with a noble and good heart...

the seed is perfect.

it's powerful enough, it's designed to live, it's programmed to grow

**What is It to "Abide"?**

**John 15:1-2, 4- 10**

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. :2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. :4 **Abide** in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abides** in Me. :5 "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who **abides** in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. :6 If anyone does not **abide** in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. :7 If you **abide** in Me, and My words **abide** in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. :8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. :9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; **abide** in My love. :10 If you keep My commandments, you will **abide** in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and **abide** in His love.

**John 15:16**

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

Note To Self

I want to passionately, convincingly, persuade the body to abide.  
I can only do what Jesus has done - invite them to, encourage them to.  
it's all I can do, and I can do no more!

# Abide in Christ - is to Stay With Him

**1 John 2:28**

And now, little children, **abide** in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

## A HEART DESIRING TO ABIDE

### **3a.) *Desiring to abide until the end v.15***

they **keep** it...

keep kate+cw katecho, *kat-ekh'-o*;

to hold down, to fasten yourself to something,

to hold in memory, to grip, bond, capture, to take possession.

Jesus' parable is to both warn us and to encourage us.

### **to warns us**

so that we be careful as to how we hear the word of God  
and to make sure that we do it, instead of talk about it.

### **the encouragement is**

to all those who minister.

it's not about the size of the church or how many people come forward in a service. it's about the hearts of those who truly believe. the ones who hear and do God's word.

*it's not how large your church is that matters.*

*it's how large its heart is.*

**Every Journeyman Has His Insights About His Trade.  
Well Here's My Insight from Preaching and Teaching,**

**don't let the numbers in the pews fool ya,  
the truth is really found in their hearts**

**I'm a heart counter, not a head counter**



"Finally, brethren, let us leave this parable of the master with this solemn recollection of duty of every faith preacher to divide his congregation, and give to each man his portion. The pastor who ascends his pulpit every Lord's Day and address his congregation as if he thought every one of them were going to heaven, is surely not doing his duty to God nor to the people. His preaching is flatly contradictory to Jesus' parable of the sower."

J.C. Ryle

## A HEART DESIRING TO ABIDE

### 3b.) *Desiring to abide until there's fruit*

they bear fruit...

fe+rw phero, *fer'-o*

to be, as in the place, to be used in the production, to bring forth,  
to carry what is produced.

The Lord Produces the Fruit, I Get to Show It Off  
by walking around in this world with His goodness

#### Matthew 7:16-19

You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? :17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. :18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit. :19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

#### Ephesians 1:3-7

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, :4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, :5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, :6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. :7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

#### Galatians 5:22-25

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, :23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. :24 And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. :25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

#### Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

#### Matthew 13:8

But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop:  
some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

but how do I know what amount is my amount?

some will speed past thirty, some past sixty....

we can't know in this life, so be alert now to what you can do through Him who does the doing.

So Let's Act with **Reckless Faith** Toward God?

## A HEART DESIRING TO ABIDE

### 3c.) *Desiring to abide until He comes v.15*

There's a Harvest Coming Friend

they keep it, they bear fruit, they do it **with patience**.

patience uɔpomonh/ hupo'm'one, *hoop-om-on-ay'*  
*to be* cheerful, joyous, hopefully waiting. enduring,  
being constant at continuing - (the waiting).

#### 1 Thessalonians 1:10

and to **wait** for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *even* Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

#### Hebrews 9:28

So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

## Am I A Productive Christian?

my annual yield of fruit testifies to what quality of soil I'm standing in.

### what's coming out of my life?

what do others say is coming out of my life?

what does God say about what's coming out of my life?

### I agree with Dr. Luke 100 fold!

**Lord make my life to produce the most it possibly can.**

there will come a time for "Casting Crowns"

#### Jeremiah 4:3

"Break up your fallow ground, And do not sow among thorns.

**Hosea 10:12**

Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For *it is* time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

*Which* **IS YOUR HEART ?**

a heart like a wayside footpath,  
that when you heard the Bible you mocked it by immediately rejecting it?

or maybe a heart like shallow, thin soil that lacked moisture. and after a week, a month, a year - in time you stopped following Jesus Christ.

Then there's the heart that looked like the real thing, but as "life happened" there was no longer any time or space for the things of God, and what was there was choked out.

prayerfully, your heart is the heart that has grown and does grow and is producing a crop one hundred times as much as was first planted.”

**Each Week I Ask You to Decide**  
**Each Week I Ask You to Come for Prayer**

————— *End of Study* —————