

DIRTY BIRD

Request: “In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus gave an example of Satan snatching the word of God from the heart. Could you explain how Satan could do this?”

Yes, but first we need to explain how to understand a parable lesson of Jesus.

After Jesus told this parable (Matt.13:1-9), His disciples asked why it was so hard to understand His parable (Matt.13:10)? Jesus explained that His parables contained “knowledge of the secrets or mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt.13:11)

This is the reason that His parables are described as earthly stories with heavenly meanings. Every parable of Jesus contained a **doctrinal point** or “knowledge of the mystery of the kingdom of heaven.”

The Parable of the Sower is 1 of 2 parables explained by Jesus (Matt.13:18-23 and 13:36-43).

What was the doctrinal point of the Parable of the Sower? _____.
(Why did the farmer sow the seed?)

NOTE: The rest of the parable is a distraction to the doctrinal point. But since the request came from the distraction section of the parable, we will address it in lieu of the doctrinal point. However if we were teaching the parable, we would need to teach the doctrinal point (Matt.13:23).

This lesson will study four aspects from the distraction section of the Parable of the Sower that I have entitled, The Dirty Bird – “And as he sowed, some seeds fell besides the road, and some birds came and ate them up.” (Matt.13:4)

1. When Jesus interpreted the parable, He explained that the birds eating the seeds sown on the roadway was “the evil one (ho poneros)” (13:19).

This is a title for Satan – “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.” (1 John 5:19)

Satan is the Dirty Bird of this parable. It is interesting that in the other parable that Jesus explained, Satan was also the archenemy (13:19, 37-39).

Satan is the archenemy of the gospel to the world and bible doctrine to the believer – “And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” (2 Cor.4:3-4)

“When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, the evil one comes and **snatches** (harpazo) **what has been sown in his heart**. This is the one on whom seed was sown besides the road.” (13:19)

“For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also, but the word they heard did not profit them, **because** it was not united by faith in those who heard.” (Heb.4:2)

2. Eve is one example of how Satan can snatch the word sown in the heart of a believer.

Remember that the key is that a believer hears, but does not understand (me suniemi) [does NOT bring together hearing and believing] (p.a.ptc.gsm) (Matt.13:19).

This is essential for the FAITH CYCLE to work.

Write the doctrinal point of the Sower parable? _____

Circle where the doctrinal point belongs on the faith cycle?

After reading Gen.3:1-6, how did Satan snatch the word and where did Eve fail in the faith cycle?

“And it was **not** Adam who was deceived, but the woman being quite deceived (exapatao) [thoroughly], fell into transgression.” (1 Tim.2:14)

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths (muthos/ Jewish fable, secrets of gnostic teachings).” (2 Tim.4:3-4)

3. In His explanation of the difficulty of getting the doctrinal point of a parabolic teaching, Jesus used (Isa. 6:9-10) to explain the role of negative volition and reversionism (Matt.13:13-17).

“For the heart of this people has become dull, and with their ears they scarcely hear, and they have closed their eyes lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart and return, and I should heal them.” (Matt.13:15)

“That, in reference to your former manner of life, **you lay aside the old self**, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and **put on the new self** which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.” (Eph.4:22-24)

4. This is how you defend against Satan using the deceit of false doctrines or cosmos diabolicus thinking to snatch the word sown in the heart.

The one offense weapon in the armor of God is called, “the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.” (Eph.6:17b)

Jesus taught us to how to use it in Matt.4:1-11. He taught us to use categorical bible doctrine residing in our heart as the weapon of the word of God to defeat Satan – “Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.”

Jesus taught us how to protect the word of God sown in heart from the **Dirty Bird** in the Parable of the Sower:

“And the one upon which seed was sown on the GOOD GROUND, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; and indeed bears fruit, and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.” (Matt.13:23)

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