

The Soil of My Heart

Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.

PSALM 95:7-8

Written by Bill Perkins

The last three posts have explored
the Parable of the Sower.
Today, we turn the lens inward-
because Jesus didn't tell this story to inform us,
but to expose what is happening in our own hearts,
and to help us prepare the soil within us
so His word can bear much fruit
in us and through us.

"Today, if you hear His voice,
do not harden your hearts."
- Ps 95:7-8

Jesus shows the soils
not as four kinds of people,
but as four conditions
inside me.
All four appear in seasons.
All four respond differently
to the same word.

THE PATH IN ME

The places closed,
guarded,
unwilling to let truth in.
(Mt 13:19)
Where old wounds
still shape my hearing,
and fear decides
what I allow God to say.

THE ROCKS IN ME

The places where I respond quickly
but shallowly- (Mt 13:20-21)
where enthusiasm rises fast
but endurance lags behind.
Where I love the moment
but resist the follow through.

THE THORNS IN ME

The places where competing desires
choke what God is growing.
(Mt 13:22)
Where worry,
hurry,
and self protection
crowd out trust.
Where good things
become rival things.

THE GOOD SOIL IN ME

The places open,
soft,
ready,
willing. (Mt 13:23)
Where the word settles deep,
roots long,
and begins to change me.

Jesus keeps sowing
into every part of me-
hard,
shallow,
crowded,
open.
He keeps sowing
because He knows
what His word can do.
(Is 55:10-11)

Which soil in me is Jesus inviting me to face today-
the path, the rocks, the thorns, or the open soil?

Spiritual growth is not automatic.

It's responsive.

Jesus does the sowing,

but I must welcome the work.

Where I soften, He plants.

Where I surrender, He roots.

Where I clear space, He grows.

The condition of my heart

shapes the harvest of His word.

You may not know this about Jesus:

He plants where we soften and roots where we surrender.

Father,

break what is hard,

deepen what is shallow,

clear what is crowded,

strengthen what is open.

Make my heart good soil

for Your word.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.