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Go Ahead, throw it out!

For those of us who live in the digital, high-definition, hyperspeed world of computers, cell phones, and all manner of modern technology, the simple agricultural analogies and metaphors used by Yeshua in his parables may seem a bit nostalgic or even antiquated. But it is precisely the primitive simplicity of these parables that make them timeless. Even in our world of processed packaged food, most people can still relate to such concepts as sowing seed and reaping harvests. One of Yeshua's most profound teachings is the *Parable of the Sower*. This parable appears in all three synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). In explaining this simple parable to his disciples, Yeshua reveals that it is foundational to understanding all other parables. *"And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? And how then will ye know all parables?"* (Mark 4:13). In Luke's account of this parable we are given the critical key to unlock so many of the Messiah's teachings: *"Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of Elohim"* (Luke 8:11). The *Parable of the Sower* is a simple story of a man sowing seed. Some of the seed, we are told, fell by the wayside, some upon on stony ground, some among the thorns, and others on good ground. The "punch line" of the story is found in the fact that even though three quarters of the seed fell fruitlessly upon unproductive soil, the remnant still brought forth an abundant harvest. The purpose of the parable was clearly to encourage the disciples of Yeshua in their preaching and teaching ministry. Not everyone would receive the message that the disciples were to bring to the world. Some would receive it briefly but be unwilling to pay the cost of true discipleship; however, regardless of all the failure, the Word of YHWH would not return empty. YHWH promised this very truth through the prophet Isaiah: *"For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth; it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it"* (Isaiah 55:10-11).

At ***A Rood Awakening! Ministries*** we are always striving to find new ways to get the seed out. Michael, the staff, and I are pouring ourselves into the ministry daily in hopes of getting the Word of YHWH planted in as many fields as possible. For the last year Michael has been traveling almost constantly, personally planting the seed of the Word in Israel, Italy, Germany, South America, and the United States. Colonel Ken Klump is constantly recruiting new soldiers for the front line of the Torah Defense Force. Brandon, our answer-man, is forever taking calls and answering e-mails to assure that weeds are being uprooted and pure seed is being planted in the garden of YHWH. Victoria has been laboring to plow the fallow ground of our prison system so that seed may be planted and harvest gathered even in these fenced-in fields. Michael has been granted an open door to a number of prisons to sow the seed of the PURE TORAH to help those behind bars become fruitful in the Kingdom of YHWH. I too have been laboring with great diligence to complete the "leaven-free" Triennial Torah Cycle to help equip other faithful sowers who are ready to cast the seed of pure Torah into the fields around them. We are forever putting our minimal staff through their paces as we discover new ways to get the Word out to the world. Most recently we have been working to develop the means and technology to do "live" teaching from remote locations, such as Michael's speaking venues or our studio. We have named this project "The Aviv Moon Emergency Broadcasting Network." We hope to be able to reach people quickly with the TRUTH before the brimstone hits the fan and the smoke begins. We are working diligently day and night, trusting in the promise of YHWH that His Word will not return to Him void and that our labors will indeed bring about an abundant harvest. We recognize that not everyone is ready or able to hear this message. We are prepared to face rejection, accusations, and frustration, but we will continue to plant wherever the Spirit of YHWH directs us. The results are up to Him.

As I pondered the *Parable of the Sower*, I also began looking at the fact that the parable speaks of four "types" of soil, of which only one proves to be fruitful. I began seeking to understand what prevented the first three types of soil from being

fruitful and what made the last soil so very fruitful. If we are able to understand these types of soil, we may be able to improve our own fruitfulness.

In the first example in the parable, the enemy or adversary steals the seed. While many see this as Satan, it may simply be all the naysayers who challenge our faith with their *reasonable* theologies, philosophies, logic, and rhetoric. When one's faith is based solely upon *head knowledge* and not on a genuine, living relationship with the living Elohim of the universe, then one is vulnerable to such attacks and challenges. To overcome such an attack, one must build a living relationship with the living Elohim.

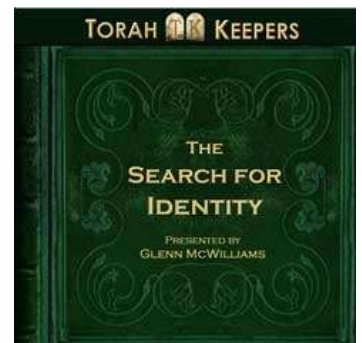
In the second example, it is persecution and offense that cause the believer to turn away and become fruitless. If we allow persecution and offense to turn us to the dark side – to our animal instincts to get even or hit back – they will prove very effective. To overcome this attack upon our fruitfulness, we must learn to overcome offense by nailing it to the cross. As the body of Messiah, we must embrace the cross. When we crucify our flesh, only the Spirit of the Holy One will respond to our persecutors, demonstrating the love and grace of YHWH through Messiah even toward His enemies. Such love is difficult to withstand or overcome.

In the third example, it is the cares and worries of the world that choke out genuine fruitfulness. Once again, these cares and worries are generally motivated by our lust for possessions. When we begin accumulating wealth and possessions, we feel the weight of protecting and maintaining them. We begin to fear the cost of discipleship. We can overcome such materialism by learning to value the eternal treasures in heaven instead of the temporal treasures of a passing earth.

When these obstacles and challenges are dealt with, when we live in relationship with the living Elohim, when we learn to take our offenses to the cross, and when we seek first the kingdom of Elohim, trusting that He will meet all of our earthly needs, then we shall find that even with the little we receive, the little we may know, and the little we have to give, we may bring forth an abundant harvest – thirty, sixty, or a hundred fold. In this regard, we shall be like the branches of the vine described in John 15 which bring forth fruit, are pruned, bring forth **more fruit**, are pruned again, and finally bring forth **much** fruit.

We are praying that the seed of YHWH'S PURE TORAH we have sown into your life will indeed bring forth fruit, **more** fruit, and **much** fruit. We trust that His Word will not return to Him empty. We also pray that with the abundant seed we sow into your lives and ministry, you will help us sow even more seed in the world around you. We ask that you consider sowing into this ministry so that we may continue to reach around the world and even into some very rocky soil with the seed of the PURE TORAH. With whatever time we have left, we want to sow the SEED OF THE PURE TORAH into the hearts and lives of as many people as the Spirit makes possible. Please help us with your prayers, tithes, and offerings. We are confident of an abundant harvest for the Kingdom of YHWH.

PS. For a donation of \$25 or more we will send you Glenn McWilliams' *new* Audio CD **THE SEARCH FOR IDENTITY**. If you have ever found yourself awkwardly tripping over your tongue while trying to explain to others who or what you are as a Torah observant believer in Yeshua, then this teaching is for you!



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