

**Sermon ~ Sunday, November 7, 2021, by Pastor, Dwight Benoit**

**Text: Matthew 13: 1-9**

**Topic: "What Have you Heard?"**

*Is it true, that we become what we hear? Your own voice or another's words or voice. The music or the beat; an annoying faucet dripping or noisy running refrigerator late in the night. Is it true, that we become what we hear? Think about it... Listen for a moment... when we obey it, it transforms us into something beyond ourselves.*

*In this text, JESUS teaches, that the varying results of Sunday morning preaching, are due, not primarily to "the Sower-the preacher," or, "the Seed—the Bible text," but to "the various grounds, the varying Soils, the diverse h-ear-ts... the varying results of Sunday morning preaching is the different hearers—you the congregants, visitors, and friends.*

*In the text, JESUS as HE teaches, gives to an "great multitude—the whole multitude," (v. 2), "Parables." (v. 3) But to HIS disciples HE explains the "parables" HE taught. (vss. 10, 11, 18-23)*

**"What Have you Heard?"**

Question? Have you come this morning for *what JESUS gives?* Question, after this past week, did you come, *for JESUS to explain* some helpful and needful "*truths*," as to why, you are glad its all behind you?

Know this, **GOD sent JESUS with a Divine purpose...** Mark 1: 14, 15 declared this, "Now after John (the Baptist) was put into prison, **JESUS** came into Galilee, preaching The Gospel (The Good News) of The KINGdom of GOD. And saying, the time is fulfilled, and **The KINGdom of GOD** is at hand: repent ye, and believe **The Gospel**."

**JESUS** came "preaching The Gospel (The Good News) about **WHO HE is**, *What HE* came to do—sacrifice **HIS Life** for our *Salvation*; die for our *sin* penalty; be *buried* for our *condemnation*, and *rise* from the dead, *forgiving* us, no matter what, as the result of **HIS shed blood** and offering us *Eternal Life*. *If*, we would repent: turn from *sin* and turn to **GOD**, [confess **JESUS** as **LORD** with our mouths and believe in our *h-ear-ts* that **GOD** hath *raised HIM* from the dead], with this *evidence of obedience*, thou shalt be *saved*."

**JESUS** also came "teaching," didacko (did-as'-ko), meaning to *cause to learn*. For those who believe and receive **HIM**, **HE** will teach them how to *live* in **The KINGdom of GOD**.

*In the text, HE teaches in "parables," that is, simple sayings which illustrate "spiritual truths."* Those with *spiritual* understanding can understand "*parables*," but those without *spiritual* understanding cannot.

*The text, (v. 3c), "Behold" – that is, be sure to see; do not miss this observable, objective Truth... there are 4 kinds of hearers here this morning...*

1. There is the wayside or trodden-down path hearer; trampled to a harden state, as The Sower goes to and fro. (**JESUS** is preached, Sunday after Sunday) The Soil, the hearer, was once soft, rich loam like the rest of the field, but in the course of years, it (*the hearer*) has been trodden down by passengers and traffic. By so many other Sunday morning attenders and hearers.

The Seed—**The WORD(S) of JESUS** falls on the *surface* (the outer *ear*) but cannot (does not) *penetrate* (into the inner *ear*). The Seed instead of being “*planted*” it “*falls*” on the path... you like others, *hear*, but **The WORD(S) of JESUS** does not enter your *h-ear-t*.

*Like others*, you teach others, what you yourself don’t practice. You *hear* “the sermon” but you don’t *meditate* and *pray* about what you *heard*. You become like so many other, a careless hearer. When our *hearing* reaches this condition, we need to ask **GOD** to drive through us the plowshares of **HOLY SPIRIT convictions**, so that **HIS WORD** can be place in your *h-ear-t*.

2. There is the “*superficial hearer*” that comes on Sunday morning. A *shallow soil* or *hearer*. *Rock(s)* are just beneath the *surface* or *skin*. Good looking but light and thin.

At first, The Seed (**GOD’S WORD**) sprouts in their *ear*. It’s received at *once with Joy*.

(**The Good News**, *new news, new ideas, new hopes*) They *hear* to *gain* some *benefit*.

When you *heard* on that Sunday or while you *hear* today, will you *become* a Christian to get a job, a scholarship, a pardon, a debit paid, an easy *Salvation* for a cheap *grace*?

How many of you are easily moved and touched, but refuse to allow **GOD’S Truth** time to *root* itself and are so quickly moved by some other appeal?

[Yea, as soon as the *sun shines... trouble* comes... *persecution* comes... the *new Faith*, the *new plant* dies, and you quickly *fall away*—stop coming.]

Wanted the *Blessing* without the price. You didn’t get what you wanted, so you get *disappointed* and *bitter*. You *start* but do not *finish*.]

We all need the *Sun* to grow, and, in this life, some *Rain* must fall! *Trials* separate the **FAITHful** from the phonies, the *sinner* from the *saint*.

### “What Have you Heard?”

3. The thorny soil (hearer) is a good soil. It’s not hard, it’s not rocky. It is deep and fertile.

The Seed (**GOD’S WORD**) on this morning, can be planted and sprout and grow. You can receive **GOD’S WORD**, believe it all your *heart*, but *within* there are also “*thorns*,” that is, *selfishness*, *worries* about today and tomorrow, deceitfulness about wealth/money and desires for other things. *These* seeming grow *faster* than **The WORD of GOD** and soon *choke* the *spiritual* life out of you. The *Spiritual* life *within* does not die, but it can become unfruitful, good for *nothing*, cut-off, thrown aside as worthless. Due know, **GOD’S WORD** will never return to **HIM** void.

(Isaiah 55: 11) For every thorny *hearer*, there is always the chance of “wasting **GOD’S Grace**.”

4. There are those of you, *like JESUS*, I would that all of us, would *hear*—receive

**The Implanted WORD of GOD**, [*Good Soils*] in our *h-ear-ts*, and *our* hundredfold, *your* sixtyfold, his and her thirtyfold will amply *repay*, all our *toils* and *tears*.

If we let **JESUS**, soften our *h-ear-ts*; If we let **JESUS** remove the *stones* just beneath our skins.

If we would just cast all our cares on **JESUS**, **HE** will show us how much **HE** cares for us all!

Did I *hear* you ask, How much does **JESUS** care? Oh, **HE** cares—I was sinking deep in *sin*,

far from a peaceful shore, very deeply stained *within*, sinking to rise no more. But **JESUS**,

The **MASTER** of the sea, heard my despairing cry and from the waters **HE** lifted me,

now safe am I. It was **LOVE**, that lifted me. When *nothing* else could help, **JESUS LOVE**

lifted me!

**JESUS** cares! *JESUS* cares! **HE** *died* on an old, rugged Cross! **HE** shed **HIS** precious Blood!  
They *buried HIS body* in a borrow Tomb. OH, but **GOD** *raised HIM* for me (for you)!  
**JESUS** cares, I tell you!

**HE** wants me to remind you, “Let not your *h-ear-ts* be troubled: ye believe in **GOD**, believe also in **ME**. In **MY FATHER** House are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto **MYSELF**; that where **I AM**, *there* ye may be also.”  
**JESUS IS COMING...**

**“What Have you Heard?”**