

Daily Devotional, November 21, 2020

“Seed Among The Thorns”, (Matthew 13:22, NKJV)

“Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.” (Matthew 13:22)

This is one of the four kinds of hearers that Jesus talks about in the Parable of the Sower. The description is that of someone “**who hears the word**” of God but bears no fruit. The lack of fruit and perseverance in the faith are evidences that any profession of faith in Christ by this kind of hearer, if there ever was one, was a false profession. “**By their fruits you will know them**” (Matthew 7:20).

Though every Scripture verse has one meaning in its context, every text also has many applications. Let us consider some applications of our verse today for those who believe and are truly saved. Are there any “**thorns**” in your life? Do “**the cares of this world**” tend to overwhelm you and rob you of peace? Among “**the cares of this world**” are excessive worry over things you cannot control, such as a loved one who is living as a prodigal, and may be involved in drinking and drugging. Some of you may be allowing what is going on in society or the words of those who wish you to live your life in fear to control your actions or immobilize you. Perhaps you are so consumed with these things that though you read and hear the word of God, the truth of it tends to go in one ear and out the other, never being applied. “**The deceitfulness of riches**” can also “**choke the word.**” This does not necessarily mean one who is rich. It can mean anyone who is preoccupied with money and the world’s goods, whether he or she has them or not. What are the “**thorns**” that are robbing you of enjoying the life of peace, hope, and thanksgiving that are God’s desire for you to have even in spite of your difficult circumstances?