

Three Things at Stake when you lose the Word of God.

Read: Mark 4:1-20-Amplified Bible

1. IT MATTERS WHEN IT COMES TO: FRUIT--BEARING.

Verse 20: *And those sown on the good (well--adapted) soil are the ones who hear the Word and receive and accept and welcome it and **bear fruit**----some thirty times as much as was sown, some sixty times as much, and some [even] a hundred times as much.*

Galatians 5:22--23

...But the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self control.**

Proverbs 18:20--21--AMP.

... A man's [moral] self shall **be filled with the fruit of his mouth**; and with the consequence of his words he must be satisfied [whether good or evil].
21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall **eat the fruit of it [for death or life].**

Ephesians 5:9--AMP

... For the fruit (**the effect, the product**) of the **Light or the Spirit** [consists] in every form of **kindly goodness, uprightness of heart, and trueness of life.**

2. IT MATTERS WHEN IT COMES TO: DISCIPLESHIP. Which is what

John 8: 31-KJV

...*If you continue in my word, you are truly my **disciples.***

Luke 6: 43--CJB

For no good tree produces bad fruit, nor does a bad tree produce good fruit.

3. IT MATTERS WHEN IT COMES TO: SALVATION.

Salvation: *redemption, deliverance, lifeline, preservation; means of escape, help, saving, ("deliverance" or "redemption" from sin and its effects.)*

Romans 10:10--AMP

... For with the heart a person believes (adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Christ) and so is justified (declared righteous, acceptable to God), and with the mouth he confesses (declares openly and speaks out freely his faith) and confirms [his] salvation.

A. SATAN TRIES TO TAKE THE WORD FROM OUR HEART: AT ONCE (BY FORCE)-- IMMEDIATELY.

2 Corinthians 4: 3--4--AMP

... But even if our Gospel (the glad tidings) also be hidden (obscured and covered up with a veil that hinders the knowledge of God), it is hidden [only] to those who are perishing and obscured (**make unclear and difficult to understand.**) [only] to those who are **spiritually dying** and veiled [only] to those who are lost.
4 For the god of this world has blinded the unbelievers' minds [*that they should not discern the truth*], preventing them from seeing the illuminating light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ (the Messiah), Who is the Image and Likeness of God.

B. SATAN TRIES TO TAKE THE WORD FROM OUR HEART: EVENTUALLY: WITH SHALLOW SOIL AND PERSECUTION.

Verses 16--17 describe this attack: *And in the same way the ones sown upon stony ground are those who, when they hear the Word, at once receive and accept and welcome it with joy;
17 And they have no real root in themselves, and so they endure for a little while; then **when trouble or persecution arises on account of the Word**, they immediately-are offended (become displeased, indignant, resentful) and they stumble and fall away.*

1Thessalonians 3:5--AMP.

... That is the reason that, when I could bear [*the suspense*] no longer, I sent that I might learn [*how you were standing the strain, and the endurance of*] your faith, [*for I was fearful*] lest somehow the tempter had tempted you and our toil [*among you should prove to*] **be fruitless and to no purpose.**

C. SATAN TRIES TO TAKE THE WORD FROM OUR HEART: EVENTUALLY: WITH DECEPTION OF RICHES.

Verses 18--19. describe this strategy: ...*And the ones sown among the thorns are others who hear the Word; 19 Then the **cares and anxieties of the world** and **distractions of the age**, and **the pleasure and delight and false glamour** and **deceitfulness of riches**, and **the craving and passionate desire for other things** **creep in and choke and suffocate the Word**, and it becomes fruitless.*

Ephesians 2:2--3--AMP.

... In which at one time you walked [*habitually*]. You were following the course and fashion of this world [*were under the sway of the tendency of this present age*], following the prince of the power of the air.

[You were obedient to and under the control of] the [demon] spirit that still constantly works in the sons of disobedience [*the careless, the rebellious, and the unbelieving, who go against the purposes of God*].

3 Among these we as well as you once lived and conducted ourselves in the passions of our flesh [*our behavior governed by our corrupt and sensual nature*], obeying the impulses of the flesh and the thoughts of the mind [*our cravings dictated by our senses and our dark imaginings*]. We were then by nature children of [God's] wrath and heirs of [His] indignation, like the rest of mankind.

James 4: 7--AMP says, ... So be subject to God. Resist the devil [*stand firm against him*], and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5: 8--9--NLT says, ... Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

9 Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith.

Here are some ways to resist Satan's efforts to defeat the Word of God as you hear it.

1. PREPARE THE SOIL OF YOUR HEART.

Verse 20 says that good soil is the key to a fruitful hearing of the Word.

2. LISTEN WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT TO THE WORD OF GOD.

3. IN THE ACT OF HEARING, WELCOME THE WORD OF GOD.

Verse 20 says, ...*And those sown on the good (well--adapted) soil are the ones who hear the Word and receive and accept and welcome it and bear fruit----some thirty times as much as was sown, some sixty times as much, and some [even] a hundred times as much.*



**DON'T LET SATAN STEAL
THE WORD
FROM
YOUR HEART.**

Sunday, December 8th, 2019

Pastor Audie D. Clairmont