

HEARERS OF THE WORD -

Luke 8: 4-15

(Mt. 13: 1-23)

Four classes of Hearers -

I. Those that hear only - that's all -

- A. They hear - period! - they do nothing about it.
- B. They are completely indifferent, unresponsive, and heedless.
- C. The Devil comes & takes away the seed.
- D. They do not believe or receive the word at all.
- E. They are like the hard way-side ground.

II. Those that hear superficially -

- A. Immediately on hearing the word they receive it joyfully.
- B. They are shallow & have no root.
- C. Their belief is temporary, and they fall away under trials.
- D. They are like the stony ground.

III. Those that hear carelessly.

- A. Evidently they receive the word, and it takes root & grows some; but it never produces any kind of fruit at all.
- B. They "go on their way" - like so many professing church people, with no change of life.
- C. The cares, anxieties, wealth & pleasures of this life stifle & choke the word.
- D. This is thorn infested ground.

IV. Those that hear obediently - ^{fruit bears} ^{Jms. 15: 8}

- A. "in an honest & good heart" = with open minds & in a right spirit.
- B. Hear the word & keep it = hold it fast.
- C. James 1: 22 - hearers, but not doers.
- D. This is good ground -