**The Parable of the Sower**

**1** Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water’s edge. **2** He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: **3** “Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. **4** As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. **5** Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. **6** But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. **7** Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. **8** Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.” **9** Then Jesus said, “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.”

**10** When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. **11** He told them, “The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables **12** so that,“ ‘they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!’ ”

**13** Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? **14** The farmer sows the word. **15** Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. **16** Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. **17** But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. **18** Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; **19** but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. **20** Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.”

**撒种的比喻（太13:1~9；路8:4~8）**

1耶稣又在海边教导人。有一大群人聚集到他那里，因此他上船坐下来。船在海中，群众都朝着海站在岸上。2他用比喻教训他们许多事，在教训中他说：3“你们听着！有一个撒种的出去撒种，4撒的时候，有的落在路旁，小鸟飞来就吃掉了。5有的落在泥土不多的石地上，因为泥土不深，很快就长起来。6但太阳一出来，就把它晒干，又因为没有根就枯萎了。7有的落在荆棘里，荆棘长起来，把它挤住，它就结不出果实来。8有的落在好土里，就生长繁茂，结出果实，有三十倍的、有六十倍的、有一百倍的。”9耶稣又说：“有耳可听的，就应当听。”

**用比喻的目的（太13:10~17；路8:9~10）**

10耶稣独自一人的时候，那些经常跟着他的人和十二门徒，来问这些比喻的意义。11耶稣对他们说：“　神的国的奥秘，只给你们知道，但对于外人，一切都用比喻，12叫他们

‘看是看见了，却不领悟，

听是听见了，却不明白，

免得他们回转过来，得到赦免。’”

**解释撒种的比喻（太13:18~23；路8:11~15）**

13耶稣又对他们说：“你们不明白这个比喻，怎能明白一切比喻呢？14撒种的人所撒的就是道。15那撒在路旁的，就是人听了道，撒但立刻来，把撒在他心里的道夺去。16照样，那撒在石地上的，就是人听了道，立刻欢欢喜喜地接受了；17可是他们里面没有根，只是暂时的；一旦为道遭遇患难，受到迫害，就立刻跌倒了。18那撒在荆棘里的，是指另一些人；他们听了道，19然而今世的忧虑、财富的迷惑，以及种种的欲望，接连进来，把道挤住，就结不出果实来。20那撒在好土里的，就是人听了道，接受了，并且结出果实，有三十倍的、有六十倍的、有一百倍的。”