

## **The parable of the sower and soils = The first parable**

Mark 4:2-9 = The parable

Mark 4:13 .. and He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable?  
How will you understand all the parables?"

(In other words, this parable is the key to the others.  
If you don't get this parable you don't get any parable.)

Mark 4:14-20 = The explanation

Seed = The Word

### **Type 1** (vs 15)

*Along the path*

People hear, but Satan robs them.

They never come to faith.

### **Type 2** (vs 16-17)

*Among the rocks*

People come to faith ... "They receive it with joy ..."  
but they are "temporary".

They fall away because of "affliction and persecution"  
ie, in a "time of testing" (see Luke 8:13).

### **Type 3** (vs 18-19)

*Among the thorns*

People come to faith, but are "unfruitful".

Choked by worries, the deceitfulness of riches and  
desire for other things.

### **Type 4** (vs 20)

*In good soil*

People come to faith and are fruitful to varying  
degrees.

(Also see: Matthew 13:3-23 and Luke 8:4-15)