

**Scripture:** God's Law (Ex. 20) & Matthew 13:1-23  
**Singing:** 71:1-3 – 69:1-2 – 333:1-4 – 141:1, 3 – 418:5, 10

Intro: Jesus eventually changed His method of preaching (Matt. 13:10-16)

### THE FOUR TYPES OF HEARERS OF THE WORD (1)

**I. The Way-side Hearer:** (4, 19) *the unprepared and unresponsive heart*

A. How does soil become a wayside?

B. Who is pictured in these hearers of the Gospel?

1. Those whose hearts aren't touched or moved by the Word you hear

2. Those who fail to use the means to prepare your heart to hear

**II. The Stony-ground hearer** (vs. 5-6, 20-21): *the impulsive heart*

A. What is meant by the stony ground?

B. Who are pictured in these hearers of the Gospel?

1. Those whose feelings are stirred and whose wills are moved to *good* actions

2. Those who are missing the growing convictions of mind (Ps. 119:130)

**III. The Thorny-ground hearer** (7, 22; Luke 8:14): *the pre-occupied hearer*

A. What is meant by the thorny ground choking the growing plants?

B. Who are pictured in these hearers of the Gospel?

1. Those who remain unconverted and unbelieving in heart though the Word bears some outward fruit in your lives  
a. you experience the sermon as a parable

b. you remain unsaved therefore not healed or forgiven

2. The reasons why you remain like this are various

a. recall former times when you were moved or pricked: *what happened?*

b. Mark 4:19 tells what you did: *the lust of other things entering in, choke the Word and it becomes unfruitful*

C. Consider Jesus' question and heed Jesus' direction

1. His question: Matt. 16:26

*For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?*

2. His direction: Matt. 6:19, 20, 33

*Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, through nor steal:*

*corrupt, and where thieves*

*and where thieves do not break*

*But seek he first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*