

GENUINE: WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

TRUE & FALSE CONVERSIONS

MARK 4:1-20



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September 16, 2018

NO FRUIT, NO ROOT.

Four responses to hearing the Gospel:

1) Duped by Satan that the Gospel isn't true – 4:4, 15

And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it...¹⁵ And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

- “The Gospel isn't true.”
- “I could never live like a true Christ-follower.”
- “I'll probably become a Christ-follower...later.”

2) Deceived by emotions – 4:5-6, 17

Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil.⁶ And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away...¹⁷ And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.

3) Distracted by stuff – 4:7, 18-19

Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain...¹⁸ And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word,¹⁹ but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

4) Believed and received the Gospel – 4:8-9, 20

And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”⁹ And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”...²⁰ But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”