

- I. *The description of Jesus' ministry (vv. 1-3)*
- II. The reception of Jesus ministry (vv. 4-15)
 - A. The parable of the soils (vv. 5-8a)
 - 1. Hardened soil – trodden down/destroyed (v. 5)
 - 2. Rocky soil – sprung up but withers (v. 6)
 - 3. Thorny soil – choked (v. 7)
 - 4. Good soil – sprung up and produces much fruit (v. 8a)
 - B. The importance of hearing (v. 8b)
 - C. *The purpose of parables (vv. 9-10)*
 - D. The parable explained (vv. 11-15)
 - 1. The seed explained (v. 11)
 - 2. The soils explained (vv. 12-15)
 - a. Hardened soil (v. 12) [hardened heart]
 - 1) The Word is heard
 - 2) The Word is taken out of their hearts
 - 3) They don't believe and are not saved
 - b. Rocky soil (v. 13) [double heart]
 - 1) The Word is heard
 - 2) The Word is received but does not take root
 - 3) They fall away because of trials
 - c. Thorny soil (v. 14) [distracted heart]
 - 1) The Word is heard
 - 2) The Word is choked
 - a) The cares of this life
 - b) The riches of this life
 - c) The pleasures of this life
 - 3) They do not bring forth mature fruit
 - d. Good soil (v. 15) [delivered heart]
 - 1) The condition of the heart
 - 2) The Word is heard
 - 3) The word is 'owned'
 - 4) They bring forth much fruit
 - With endurance

III. *The accountability of Jesus' ministry (vv. 16-18)*

IV. *The family of Jesus' ministry (vv. 19-21)*