

# The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

## Parables

### Matthew 13

**He said nothing to the crowds without a parable.**

**(Matthew 13:34)**

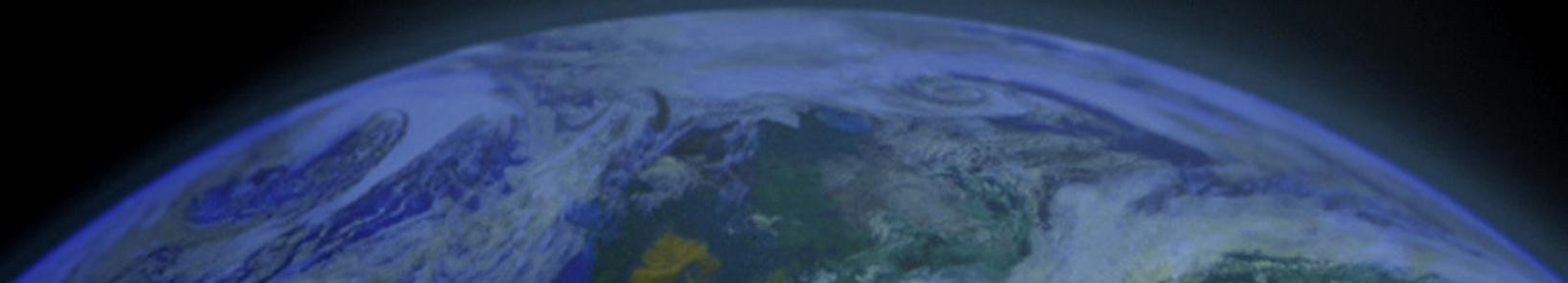


# Two Groups: The Crowds & The Disciples

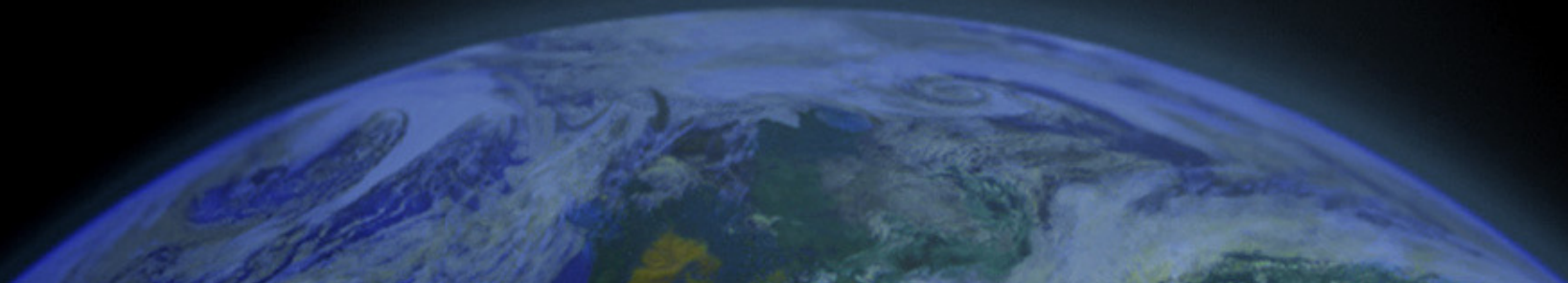
God still hides His truth from the crowds and reveals it only to His disciples.



The whole vision has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed (Isaiah 19:11).



Truly You are God, who hides Yourself  
(Isaiah 45:15).



# The Parable of the Sower

## The Seed Is the Word of God

### Four Kinds of Soil

Wayside – Birds steal

Rocky ground

Thorns

Good ground

No understanding

No root

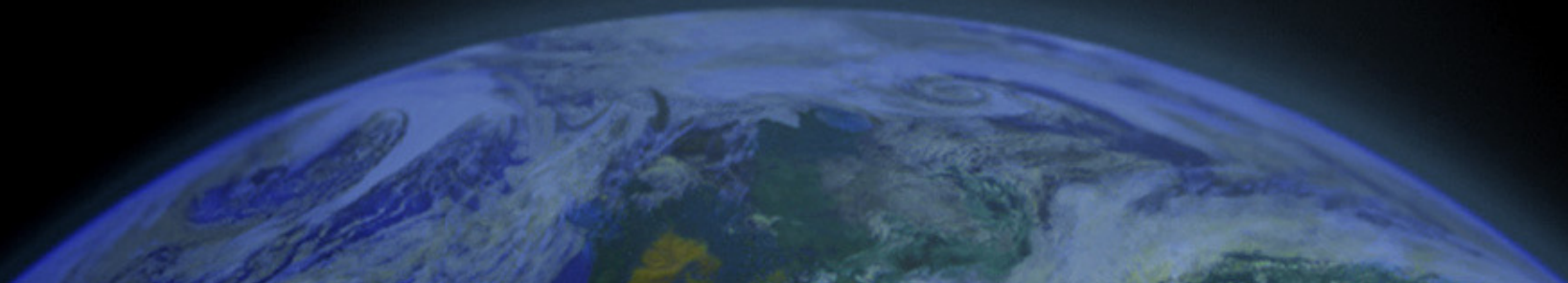
Cares and riches choke the seed

Understands and bears fruit



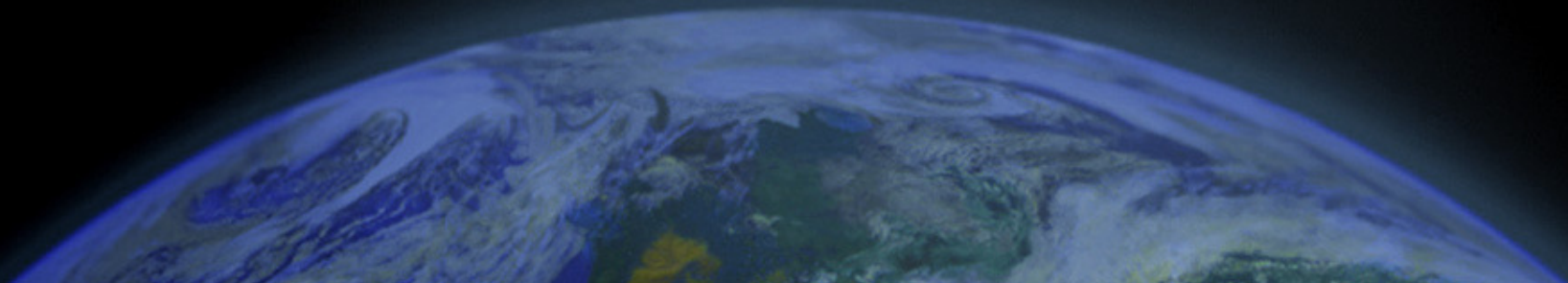
# Good Soil Bears Fruit (Not Good People)

The unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God. . . . Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9).



# Understanding

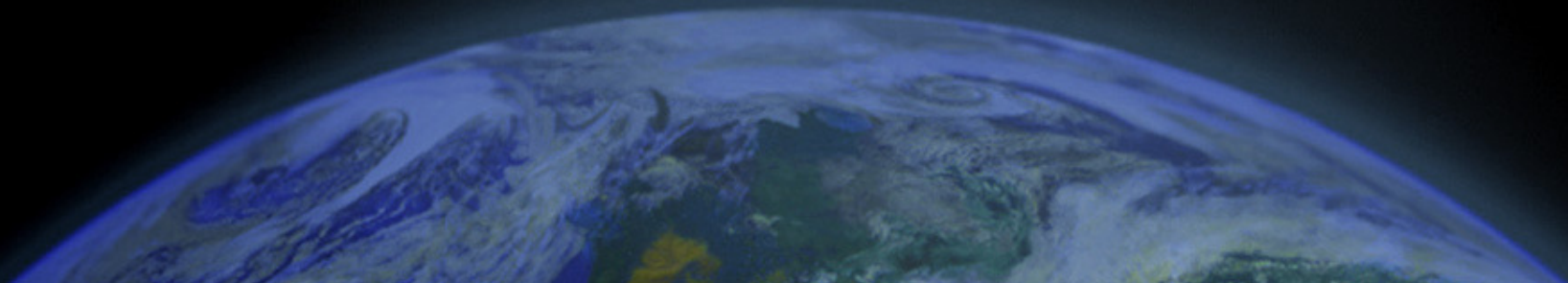
**It comes by revelation and not by brains.**



# How Do We Get the Understanding Needed?

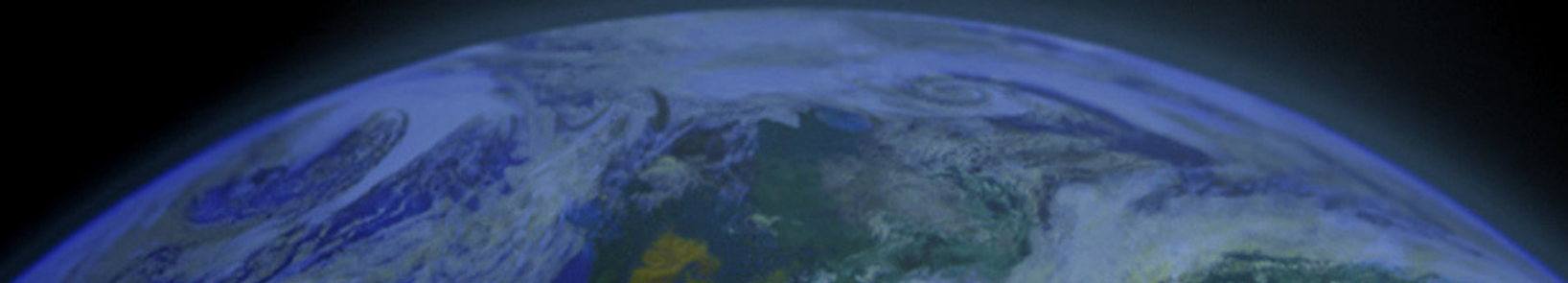
For thus says the LORD . . . : “Break up your fallow ground, and do not sow among thorns” (Jeremiah 4:3).

Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy;  
Break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the  
LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you  
(Hosea 10:12).



# The Two Things that Must Be Understood

1. The total inability to please God with our own righteousness.
2. Only the righteousness of Christ and His blood atonement can change us.



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