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**OVERVIEW**

- Worldview – a particular philosophy of life or conception of the world. It's what a person believes about truth and the world in which they make decisions.
- Biblical Worldview – the means of experiencing, interpreting, and responding to reality from a biblical perspective.

**THIS WEEK: HAVE YOU SEEN & HEARD?**

**Matthew 13:1-23 (NIV)** - 1That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9**Whoever has ears, let them hear.**"

10The disciples came to him and asked, "**Why do you speak to the people in parables?**" 11He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. 12Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 13**This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. 14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. 15 For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'**

**16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.** 17For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. 18 "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. 22The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. 23But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

**NOTICE:**

- Jesus reveals truth in a specific way (parable) for a specific reason (for some to hear and some not)
- The disciples ask why he is doing this – they were curious to understand

- Truths from Jesus reply:
  - I have revealed truth to you but not yet to them
  - Those who have (life and understanding of truth in the kingdom) will gain more of it; but those who do not, whatever they do have (of the world and of themselves) will be taken from them (in life and at the end of it here on earth)
  - This crowd (and subsequently those like them to come) fulfill this prophesied truth:
    - As a result of a calloused heart they:
      - Seeing but they do not see, they have closed their eyes
      - Hearing but they do not hear or understand
  - OTHERWISE, they would see and hear
- BUT, blessed are those who see and hear
- BTW – others longed to see me and hear these truths and did not get to

**SEE AND HEAR THE TRUTH ABOUT SEEING AND HEARING TRUTH FROM THE PARABLE:**

- Some hear and do not understand and truth is snatched from them
  - You can hear it and have it in your heart, but fail to keep it and embrace it
- Some hear and receive it with joy immediately, but since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.
- Some hear the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful in them.
- Some hear the word and understand it and produce a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH OTHERS:**

- **Have you seen and heard the truth of the Gospel and life in the Kingdom?**
- **Is today the day you hear, see and change the soil of your heart and life?**
- **What does your life reveal about the type of soil you are?**
- **What is growing in the soil of your life? Weeds? Nothing? A fruitful crop?**
- **What next step can you take today in your faith walk?**

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