

# “Parable of the Sower—Part 3”

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a four-part series about the parable of the sower (which was given in Matthew 13:3-9 and explained in Matthew 13:18-23).

Let’s look at the third lesson in the parable.

## **Choking the word**

Matthew 13:7—“Some seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.”

Matthew 13:22—“Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.”

## **Cares of world—general warnings**

- Exodus 20:17—The Tenth Commandment says that we should not lust for anything that is our neighbor’s.
- Ephesians 2:2-3—The prince of the power of the air stirs up lusts of our flesh, desires of our flesh and desires of our mind.
- 1 John 2:15-16—Disciples should not love the things of the world—meaning the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life.

## **Behaviors that are sin**

- Matthew 5:28—The Son of God said: Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery.
- Acts 8:18-23—When Simon wanted to buy power, Peter noted his sin.

## **Behaviors that can become sin**

- Deuteronomy 20:5-7—The following three distractions to a soldier (a new house, a vineyard and a wife) are not automatically sin, but they can become sin.
- Luke 14:18-20—The following three distractions to a disciple (land, animals and a wife) are not automatically sin, but they can become sin.
- 1 Corinthians 7:32-35—The apostle Paul gave his opinion about the advantages of being single instead of being married.

## Deceitfulness of riches

- Deuteronomy 6:10-12—When you enjoy physical blessings, beware lest you forget God.
- Deuteronomy 8:10-14—When your life is full, beware lest you forget God.
- Revelation 18:11-17—When the merchants of the earth lose their wealth, many people will weep and mourn.
- Mark 10:23—The Son of God said: It is hard for those who “have” riches to enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Mark 10:24—The Son of God said: It is hard for those who “trust in” riches to enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Luke 12:15—Beware of covetousness, because a person’s life does not consist of the abundance of the things he possesses.
- Luke 12:16-21—The Son of God gave a parable instructing the audience to be “rich toward God.”
- Luke 14:12-14—The Son of God reminded His disciples that they would be repaid at the resurrection of the just.
- 1 Timothy 6:3-10—The apostle Paul warned about church leaders who were preoccupied with becoming rich.
- 1 Timothy 6:9—Church leaders who desire to be rich often fall into temptation and a snare of foolish and harmful lusts.
- 1 Timothy 6:10—Paul reminded people that the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.
- 1 Timothy 6:17—Paul reminded people to avoid trusting in uncertain riches and to trust in the living God.
- 1 Timothy 6:18-19—Paul reminded people to be a giver on earth and to receive future blessings.