To answer this question, lets look at the parable of the Seed and the Sower.

Mark 4:13* And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?

This is the simplest of all parables, if you cannot understand the everyday concept of reaping whatever we sow. If we plant potatoes we reap potatoes, if we sow wheat we reap wheat. In other words, in the natural whatever SEED we put in the ground, will come up. (providing it has ample moisture and sun)

AND so it is in the spiritual

Matthew 13:18* Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

Mark 4:14* The sower soweth the word.

Luke 8:11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

In the natural there are different kinds of soil, Grey wooded soil, sandy soil, clay based soil and Black soil, just to name some.

Without the proper fertilizer each soil has a different reproduction rate. AND so it is with the Heart of man. It will only produce what you allow it to be fed or how much you have it watered and cultivated. There are multitudes (due to tradition or upbringing or their own preconceived notions) that will not listen to sound doctrine. (2Tim 4:3) If you sow doubt and fear in your heart, that is exactly what you will reap, if you sow faith, you will reap the products of faith. If you sow the word of God in faith YOU WILL reap the benefits.

This parable represents four classes of hearers or spiritual soil,

THE FICKLE: (nothing steadfast) <u>Mark 4:15</u> And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.

In other words, there is no root, they may go to church occasionally but are totally ruled by their five natural senses. (touch, taste, feel, see and hear) your spiritual sense is FAITH. (Heb 11:6)
Hearers of the word ONLY. (Jam 1:23)

THE WORLDLY: (carnal minded) Mark 4:16-17 And these are they

likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. This is The Most Common Ground in the Professing Church, as long as the pastor doesn't preach Hellfire and damnation, as long as I can still enjoy my pleasures, as long as I don't have to deal with conviction then we will get along fine, do you understand what I mean.

THE PIOUS. (very religious) <u>Mark 4:18-19</u> And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. Politically correct, don't do or say anything that could be interrupted as bias or prejudice. Just because the Islamics religion says to KILL all Jews and Christians, you can't be prejudice. AND TO THIS I SAY, "It's your funeral."

HUMBLE or GOOD SOIL: (faithful) Mark 4:20 And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred. In other words, they believe the word of God, ALL of it. They are Doers of the word, Jesus is the same to them as when he walked this earth. He never changes (thank God). Obama campaigned on CHANGE and won. Nobody and I mean NOBODY that has any form of decency cannot say that the USA has not changed, they are officially no longer a Christian Nation, they have lost their political clout. And their military powers are in question, but the church is blossoming, especially in the so called persecuted countries. By church, I'm referring to the body of Christ and not the denomination. Because you attend a denomination does not mean you're not good soil, but if your denomination rules you, then you're not of Christ.

2John 9* Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, they emphasized these four types of spiritual soil, in spite of seeing the power and handiwork of God and all this was done in just the first few months

of crossing the Red Sea on DRY ground. (Ex 15:24, Ex 16:3, Ex 16:19-20, Ex 16:27-28, Ex 17:2) This is just a few times they complained even though they had just experienced Gods great providing power and love. We are no different!

Not all complained and murmured, but it was the majority.

It is like Gods word in Mt 25:1-2 his odds here was 50%, so according to these figures, only half the professing Christians are really ready to meet him.

So as a quick guide for yourself, read Revelation 21:8, if one or more hit home, then repent and ask Jesus to forgive you and guide you into his truth.

So instead of complaining try 1 Thessalonians 5:18, it really works.

Bro. Ken

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