





John 15:1-8

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

2 Every branch **in Me**

1

that does not bear fruit He takes away;

and

every branch

2

that bears fruit He prunes, that it may
bear more fruit.

3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot **bear fruit** of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

John 15:1-8 (cont'd)

- 5 "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, **bears much fruit**; for without Me you can do nothing.
- 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.
- 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.
- 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you **bear much fruit**; so you will be My disciples.

TWO KINDS OF BRANCHES (John 15)

Branches not united
to (residing in) Christ
.....
Christ is not the
Source of their Life

Branches united to
(residing in) Christ
.....
Christ is the
Source of their Life

*“If anyone
does not reside in Me,
he is cast forth as a
branch ... withered ...
burned”* (vs 6)

.....
*“Every plant which My
heavenly Father has
not planted will be
uprooted”* (Mt 15:13, Christ
speaking of the Pharisees)

“Every branch in Me...” (vs 2)

“does not bear fruit...”

“bears fruit...”

“He lifts it up...”

“He prunes it...”

PURPOSE

“that it may bring forth more fruit” (vss 2,16)

“You are clean through the word...” (vs 3)

*“I am the Vine ... you are the branches ...
whoever abides in Me bears much fruit”* (vs 5)

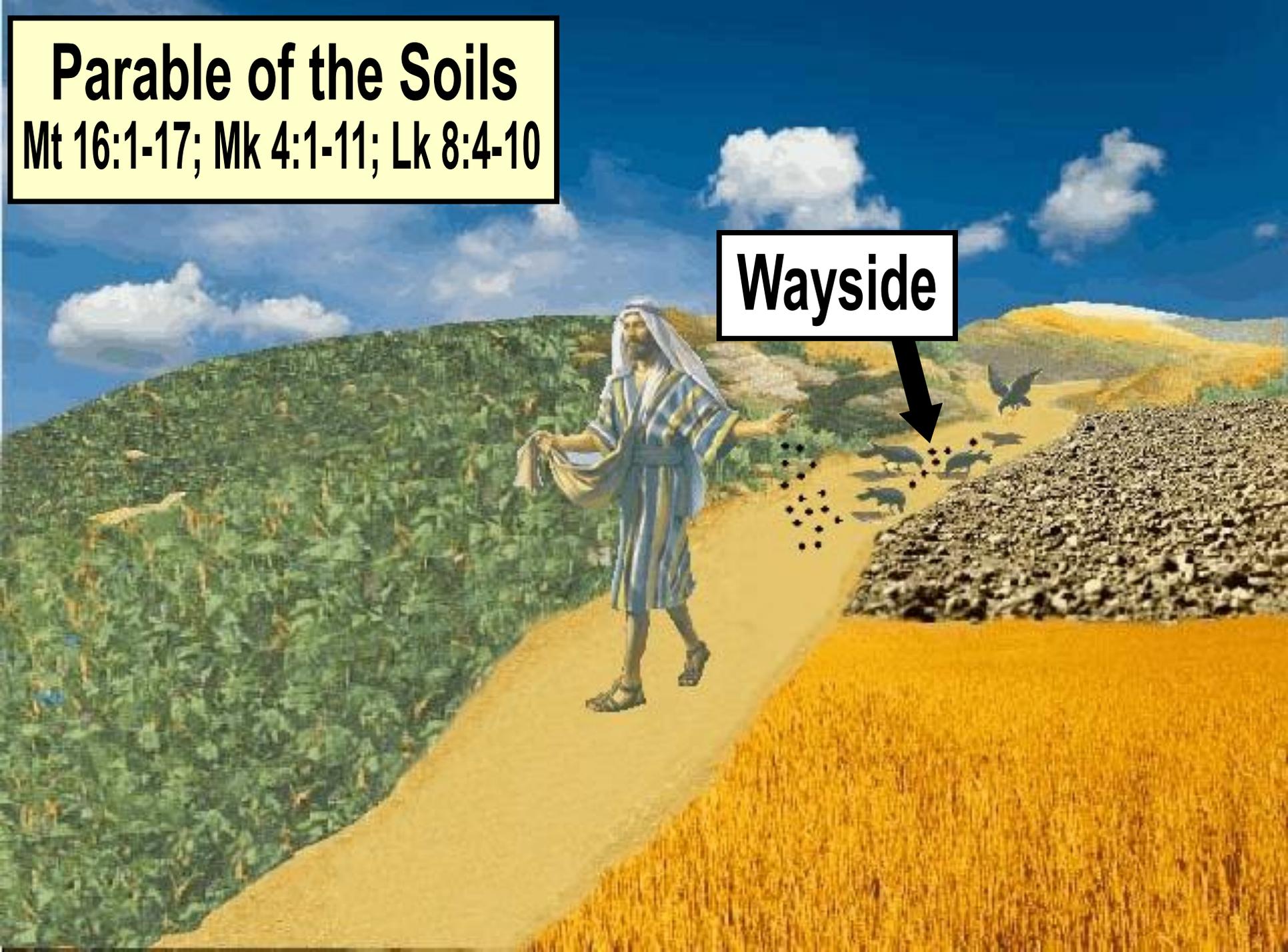
*“If you abide in Me and My words abide
in you...”* -- prayers answered (vs 7)

2 Stages of Health

Parable of the Soils

Mt 16:1-17; Mk 4:1-11; Lk 8:4-10

Wayside



Matt 13

3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow.

4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.

Mark 4

3 "Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow.

4 And it happened, as he sowed, that some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds of the air came and devoured it.

Luke 8

4 And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable:

5 "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it.

Matt 13

18 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower:

19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

Mark 4

14 The sower sows the word.

15 And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.

Luke 8

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

12 Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

Wayside

Skeptical Mind

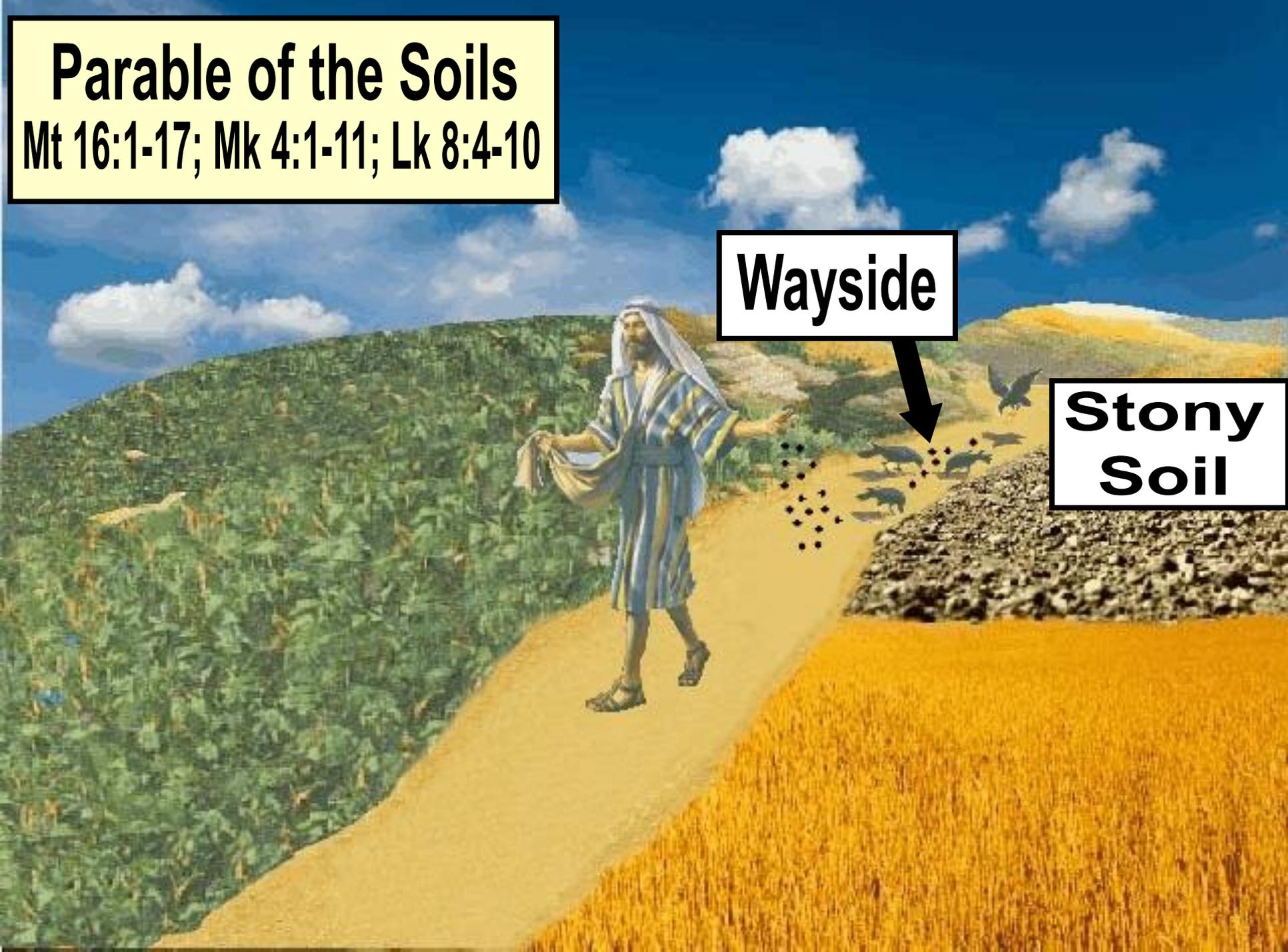
- Uncultivated
- Hard-hearted
- Unreceptive
 - Indifferent
 - Resistant
- Undiscerning ("does not understand")
- Disdainful ("trampled down")
- Unbelieving ("lest they should believe and be saved")

Parable of the Soils

Mt 16:1-17; Mk 4:1-11; Lk 8:4-10

Wayside

**Stony
Soil**



Matt 13

5 Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

6 But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

Mark 4

5 Some fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth.

6 But when the sun was up it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered away.

Luke 8

6 Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it **lacked moisture.**

Matt 13

20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

Mark 4

16 These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

17 and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble.

Luke 8

13 But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation **fall away.**

Stony Ground

Shallow Mind

- Impulsive
(immediate response but no endurance; response is only superficial)
- Unstable
(stumbles in adversity)
(Note: because of "the Word")

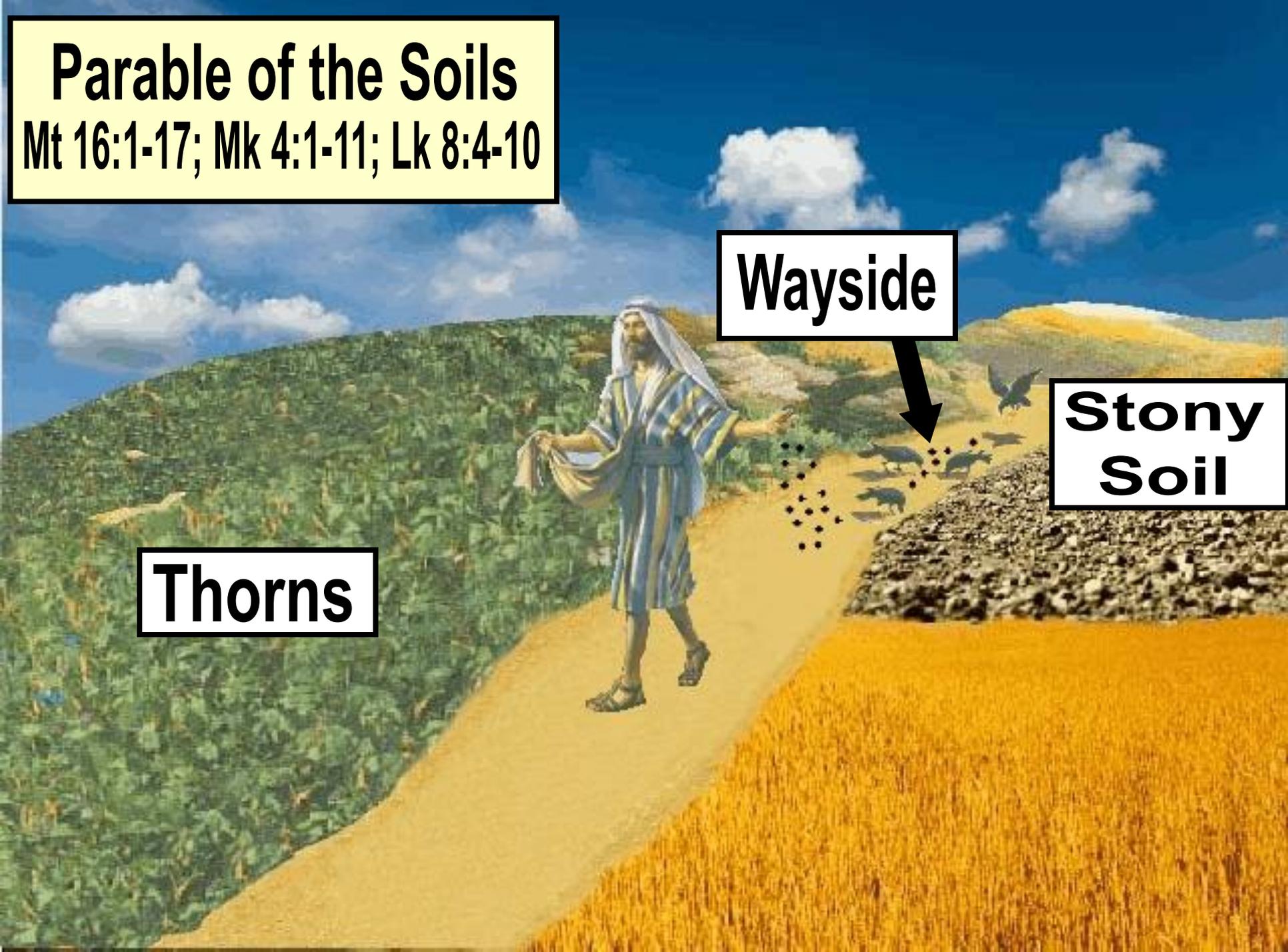
Parable of the Soils

Mt 16:1-17; Mk 4:1-11; Lk 8:4-10

Wayside

**Stony
Soil**

Thorns



Matt 13

7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them

Mark 4

7 And some seed fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no crop.

Luke 8

7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it.

Matt 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.

Mark 4

18 Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word,
19 and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Luke 8

14 Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, **go out** and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

Thorny Ground

Sensual Mind

Selfish - controlled by indulgence

Earthly-minded;
focused on desires, passions & worldly interests

Worldly:

- ▶ Priorities (cares)
- ▶ Prosperity (riches)
- ▶ Pleasures

Growth stunted / choked out

Results:

- Barrenness
 - becomes unfruitful
 - brings no fruit to maturity
- Apostasy (Note: "go out" = depart / forsake (cf. Demas II Tim 4:10))

Parable of the Soils

Mt 16:1-17; Mk 4:1-11; Lk 8:4-10

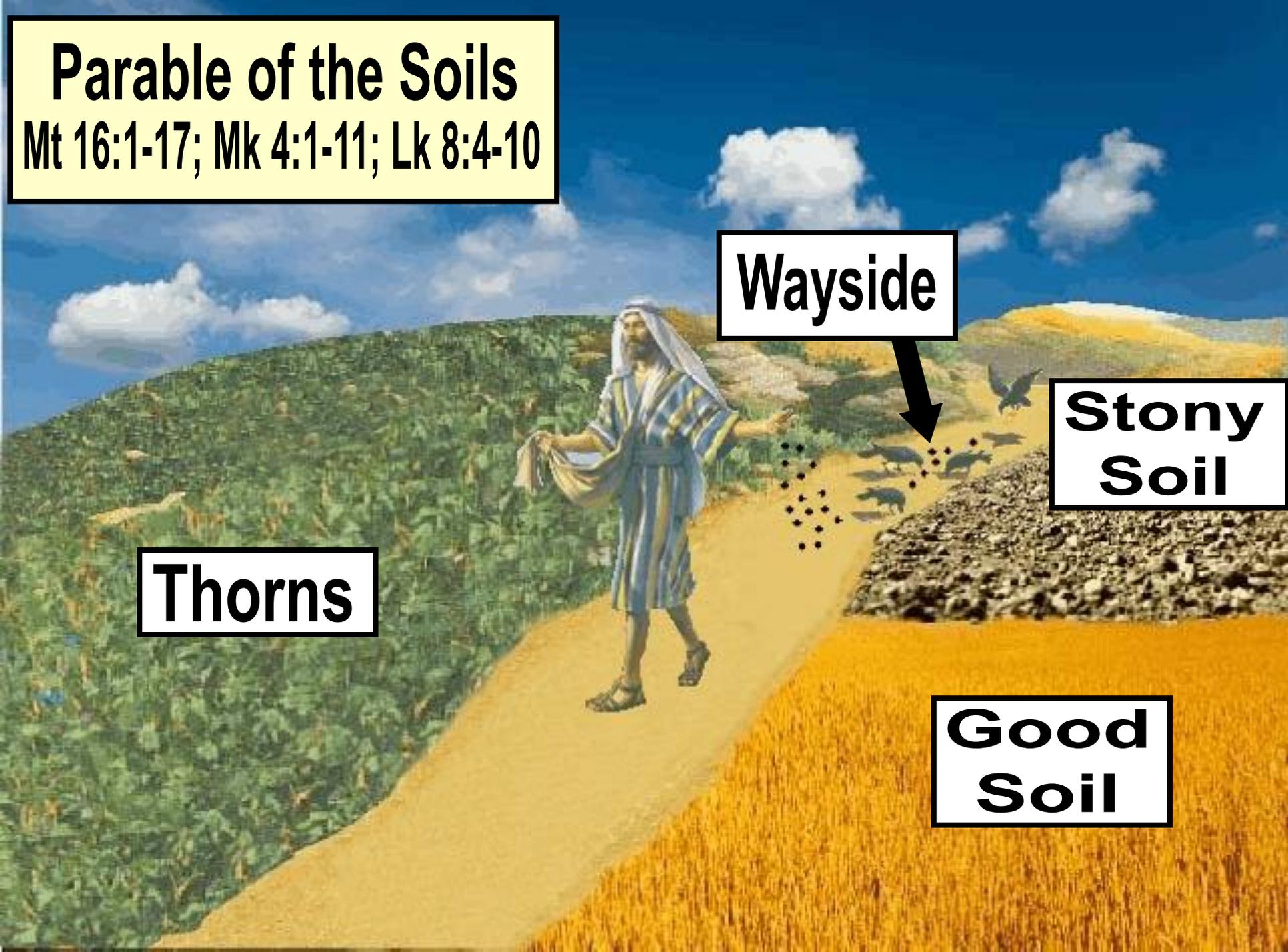
Wayside



**Stony
Soil**

Thorns

**Good
Soil**



Matt 13

8 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Mark 4

8 But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, **increased and produced:** some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

9 And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Luke 8

8 But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Matt 13

23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who **hears the word and understands it**, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

Mark 4

20 But these are the ones sown on good ground, **those who hear the word, accept it**, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

Luke 8

15 But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, **having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.**

Good Ground

Submissive Mind

- Discerning
- Receptive:
 - ▶ "noble" heart - good with a view to benefiting others; concern

 - ▶ "good" heart -- inherently good / character

- Obedient "keep it"

- Committed "with endurance"

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable

- for doctrine,
- for reproof,
- for correction,
- for instruction in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Tim 3:16-17

Parable of the Soils

Mt 16:1-17; Mk 4:1-11; Lk 8:4-10

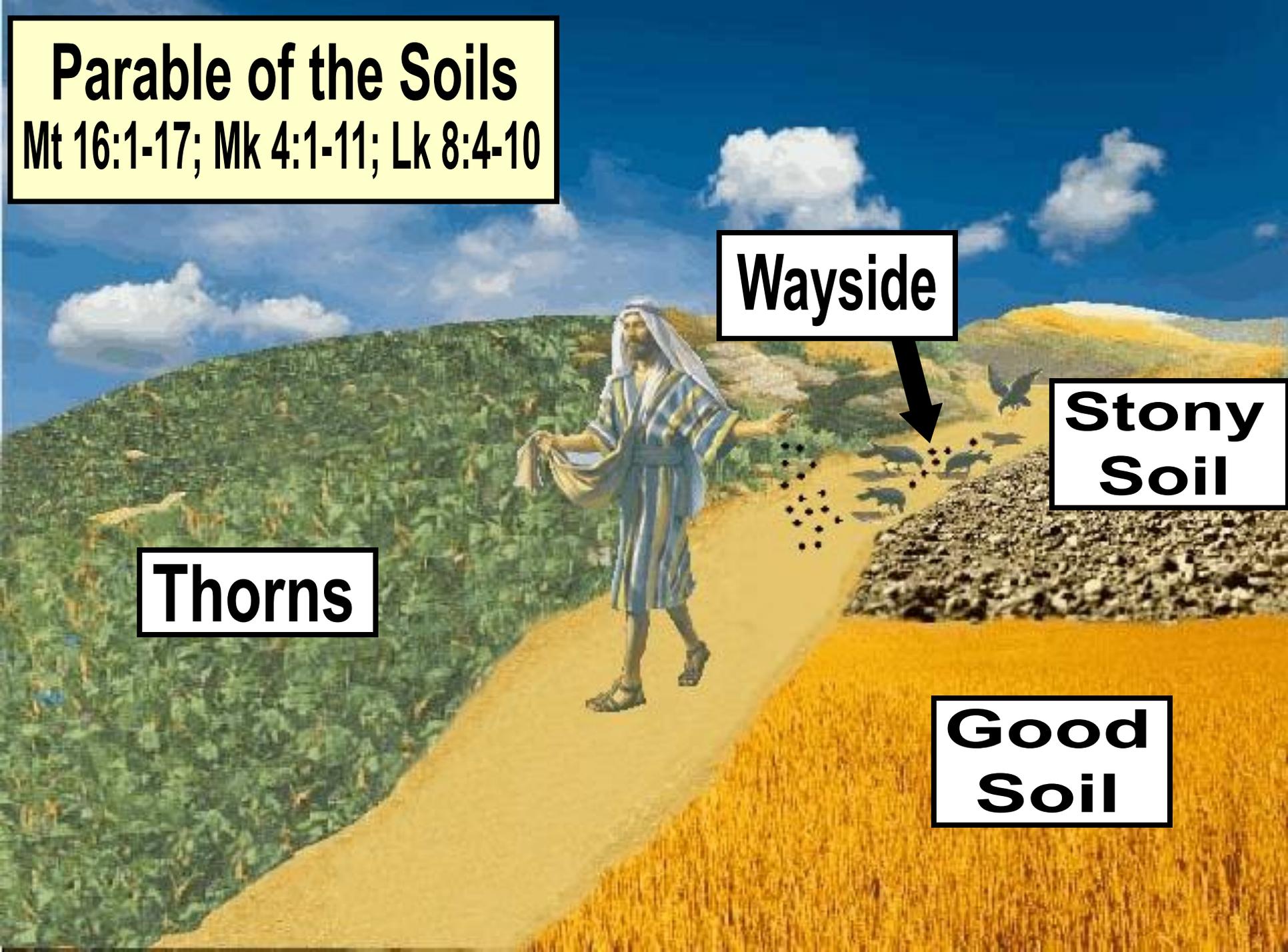
Wayside



**Stony
Soil**

Thorns

**Good
Soil**



TWO KINDS OF BRANCHES (John 15)

Branches not united
to (residing in) Christ
.....
Christ is not the
Source of their Life

Branches united to
(residing in) Christ
.....
Christ is the
Source of their Life

*“If anyone
does not reside in Me,
he is cast forth as a
branch ... withered ...
burned”* (vs 6)

.....
*“Every plant which My
heavenly Father has
not planted will be
uprooted”* (Mt 15:13, Christ
speaking of the Pharisees)

“Every branch in Me...” (vs 2)

“does not bear fruit...”

“bears fruit...”

“He lifts it up...”

“He prunes it...”

PURPOSE

“that it may bring forth more fruit” (vss 2,16)

“You are clean through the word...” (vs 3)

*“I am the Vine ... you are the branches ...
whoever abides in Me bears much fruit”* (vs 5)

*“If you abide in Me and My words abide
in you...”* -- prayers answered (vs 7)

2 Stages of Health

