



“THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: GOOD SEED. GOOD GROUND?”

MATTHEW 13:1-23 BIBLE STUDY

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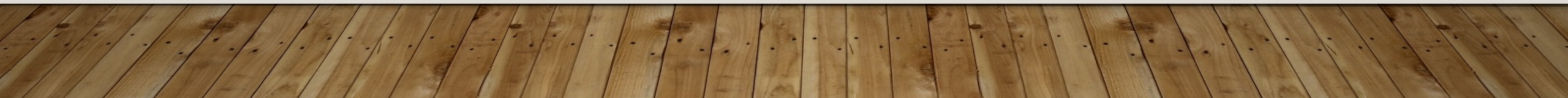




GOOD JUDGMENT



- Do not give what is holy to dogs, nor throw your pearls before pigs, lest they **trample them** under their feet and turn and **tear you to pieces.**
(Mt 7:6, NIV)





MIXED BAG OF RESPONSES



- 20 Then Jesus began to **denounce the towns** in which **most of his miracles** had been **performed**, because **they did not repent**.
21 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. (Mt 11:20-22, NIV)



MIXED BAG OF RESPONSES



- But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might **kill** Jesus.” (Mt 12:14, NIV)
- But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the **prince of demons**, that this fellow drives out demons.” (Mt 12:24, NIV cf. Mt 9:34)



MIXED BAG OF RESPONSES



- 46 While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. 47 Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” 48 He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” 49 Pointing to his **disciples**, he said, “**Here are my mother and my brothers.** 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” (Mt 12:46-50, NIV)



MATTHEW 13:1
SAME DAY



- On that [same] day, Jesus went out of the house and was sitting by the sea. (Mt 13:1, AT)





MATTHEW 13:2 CROWD CONTROL



- And great crowds were gathered before him, so then He stepped into the boat to be seated [to teach], and all the crowd stood on the shore.

(Mt 13:2, AT)





MATTHEW 13:3A PARABLES?



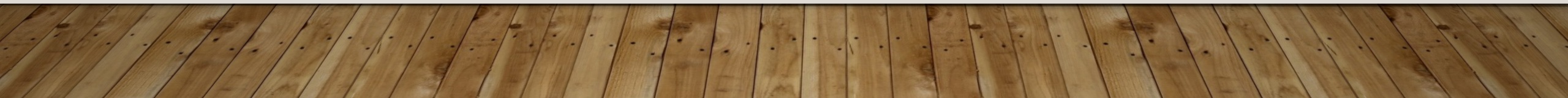
- Then He spoke many things to them in parables.
(Mt 13:3a, AT)
- Therefore everyone who **hears these words** of mine and **puts them into practice** is like a **wise man** who built his house on the rock. (Mt 7:24, NIV)



MATTHEW 13:3B-4 EASY PICKINS



- 13b Consider this: A sower went out to sow seed, 14 some of which fell by the path while he was sowing, and the birds came and devoured them. (Mt 13:3b-4, AT)





MATTHEW 13:5 SHALLOW SOIL



- But others fell upon the rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly since they did not have deep soil. (Mt 13:5, AT)





MATTHEW 13:6
NO ROOT



- But when the sun rose, they were scorched. And since they had no root, they were dried up. (Mt 13:6, AT)





MATTHEW 13:7 CHOKED BY COMPETITION



- But others fell among the thorns, and thorns grew and choked them. (Mt 13:7, AT)





MATTHEW 13:8
FRUITFUL, GOOD SOIL



- But others fell on soil – the good soil – and produced fruit which was some hundred, some sixty, some thirty(fold). (Mt 13:8, AT)
- **Isaac planted crops** in that land and the same year **reaped a hundredfold**, because the **LORD blessed him**. (Gen 26:12, NIV)



MATTHEW 13:9
CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?



- To the one who has ears, I command them to hear! (Mt 13:9, AT)





MATTHEW 13:10 WHY PARABLES?



- Then the disciples came before [Him] and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" (Mt 13:10, AT)



MATTHEW 13:11 INSIDER INFORMATION



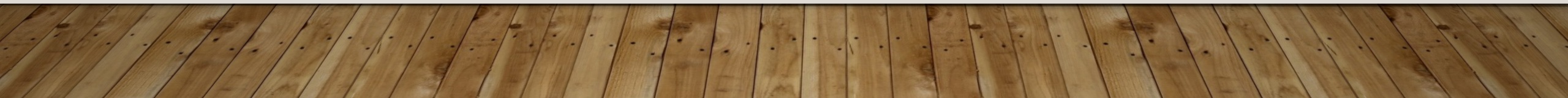
- And He said to them, Because to *you* it has been granted to know the mysteries of the Kingdom, but to those [people] it has not been granted. (Mt 13:11, AT)



MATTHEW 13:12
INSIDER INFORMATION



- For whoever has, it will be granted to them and they will be made to have an abundance. But whoever does not have, even that which they have will be taken away from them (Mt 13:12, AT; cf. Mt 25:29)





MATTHEW 13:13
REJECTION, MISPERCEPTION



- For this reason I speak to them in parables:
because though they are seeing, they do not see,
and though they are hearing, they do not hear
nor understand. (Mt 13:13, AT)

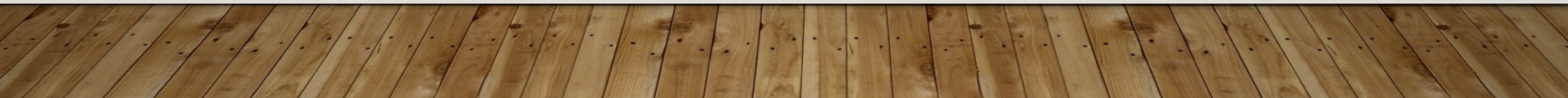


MATTHEW 13:14-15

REJECTION, MISPERCEPTION



- 14 And the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled by them, the one saying: "You will indeed hear and never understand, and you will indeed see and never perceive. 15 For the heart of these people has become dull | and they have heard heavily with their ears | and they have shut their eyes | So that they may not see with their eyes | and hear with their ears | and understand in their heart | and turn around and I would heal them. (Mt 13:14-15, AT)





MATTHEW 13:14-15
REJECTION, MISPERCEPTION



- So give your servant a **discerning heart** to govern your people and to **distinguish** between **right and wrong...** (1 Ki 3:9a, NIV)

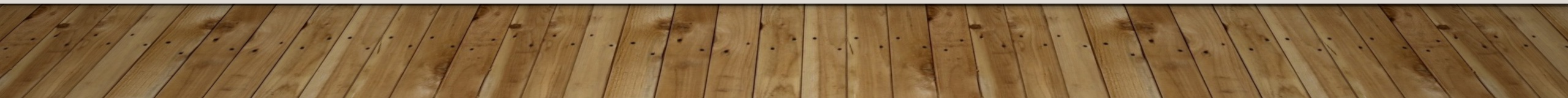




MATTHEW 13:16
BLESSED PERCEPTION



- But blessed are *your* eyes because they see and *your* ears because they hear. (Mt 13:16, AT)

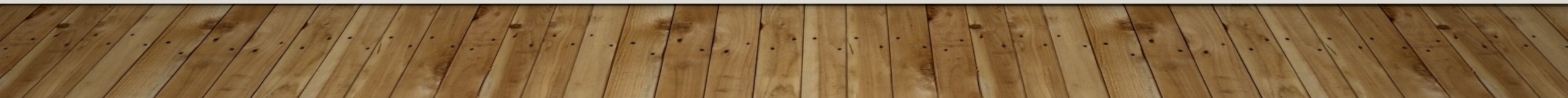




MATTHEW 13:17
ANCESTORS' WILDEST DREAMS



- For Amen I say to you: many prophets and righteous [people] longed to see what you see and did not see, and to hear what you hear and did not hear (Mt 13:17, AT)





MATTHEW 13:18
LISTEN UP!



- *You*, therefore, hear the parable of the sower.
(Mt 13:18, AT)

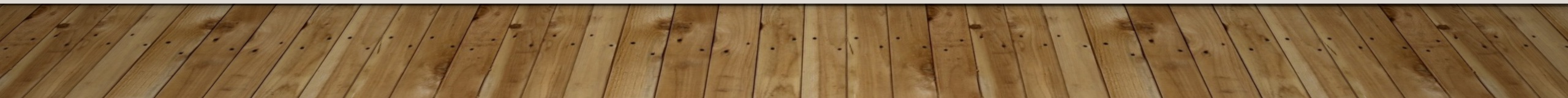




MATTHEW 13:19 HARD-HEARTED HEARERS



- From all who hear the message of the Kingdom and do not understand, the Evil One comes and snatches what had been sown in their hearts. This is what was sown by the path. (Mt 13:19, AT)

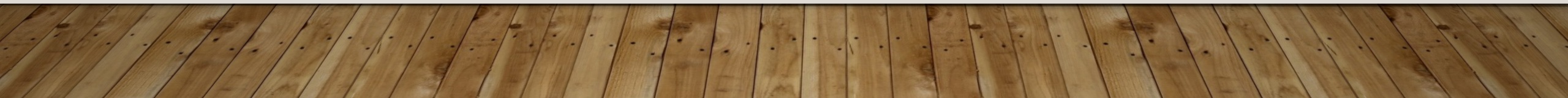




MATTHEW 13:20-21 FAIR-WEATHER “FANS”



- 20 As for what was sown on the rocky ground, this is the one who hears the message and quickly – with joy – accepts it. 21 Yet such a person has no root in themselves, but is fleeting. So when hardship or persecution comes because of the message, that person quickly falls away [from the faith]. (Mt 13:20-21, AT)

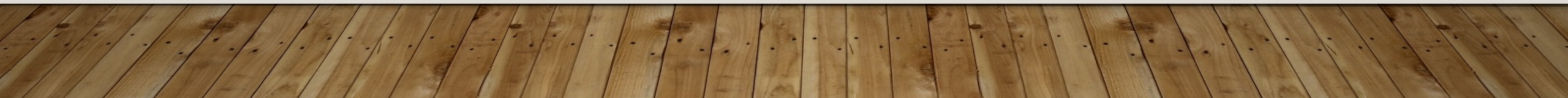




MATTHEW 13:20-21
FAIR-WEATHER “FANS”



- “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you **ate the loaves and had your fill.**”
(Jn 6:26, NIV)





MATTHEW 13:20-21 FAIR-WEATHER “FANS”



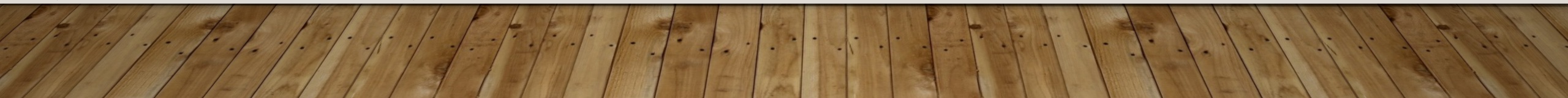
- **10 Blessed** are those who are **persecuted because of righteousness**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11 “Blessed** are you when people **insult** you, **persecute** you and **falsely say all kinds of evil** against you **because of me**. **12 Rejoice** and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they **persecuted the prophets** who were before you. (Mt 5:10-12, NIV)
- “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.” (Jn 15:18, NIV)



MATTHEW 13:20-21 FAIR-WEATHER “FANS”



- You will be **hated** by **everyone** because of me, but the one who **stands firm** to the end will be **saved**. (Mt 10:22, NIV)
- 9 “Then you will be handed over to be **persecuted** and **put to death**, and you will be **hated** by **all** nations because of me. 10 At that time **many will turn away from the faith** and will betray and hate each other, 11 and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. (Mt 24:9-11, NIV)

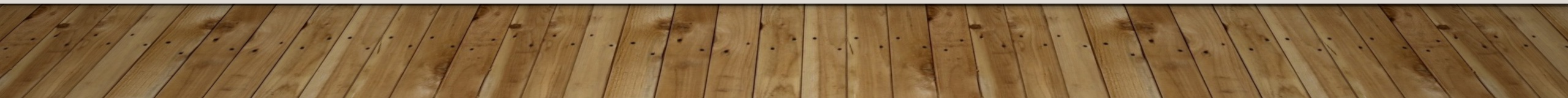




MATTHEW 13:20-21 ROOTS IN THE TRUTH



- 9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in **knowledge and depth of insight**, 10 so that you may be able to **discern what is best** and may be **pure and blameless** for the day of Christ, 11 **filled with the fruit of righteousness** that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.
(Php 1:9-11)
- Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to further the faith of God's elect and their **knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness**— (Tit 1:1, NIV)





MATTHEW 13:22
BACKBURNER “BELIEVERS”



- As for what was sown among the thorns, this is the one who hears the message, and the concerns of daily life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the message – and it becomes unfruitful (Mt 13:22, AT)

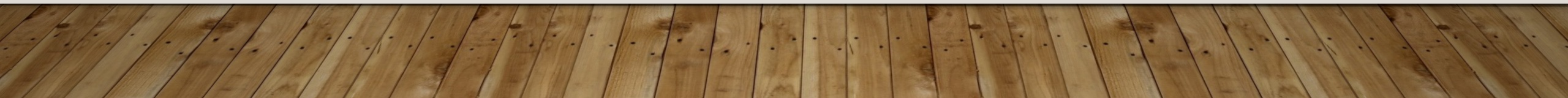




MATTHEW 13:22
BACKBURNER “BELIEVERS”



- For the **love of money** is a **root** of **all kinds of evil**. Some people, eager for **money**, have **wandered from the faith** and pierced themselves with many griefs. (1 Tim 6:10, NIV)
- Those who want to **get rich** fall into **temptation** and a **trap** and into **many foolish and harmful desires** that plunge people into **ruin** and **destruction**. (1 Tim 6:9, NIV)

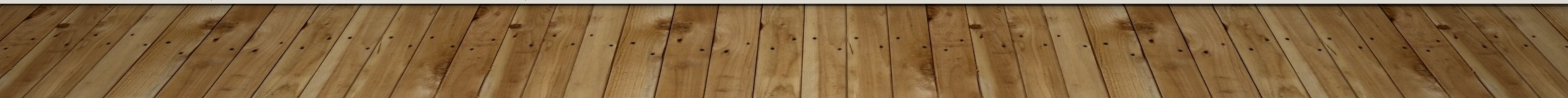




MATTHEW 13:22 BACKBURNER “BELIEVERS”



- “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**” (Mt 6:24, NIV)
- 19 “Do not store up for yourselves **treasures on earth**, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves **treasures in heaven**, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For **where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** (Mt 6:19-21, NIV)





MATTHEW 13:22
BACKBURNER “BELIEVERS”



- But seek **first** his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Mt 6:33, NIV)





MATTHEW 13:23 FRUITFUL FOLLOWERS



- As for what was sown on the good soil, this is the one who hears and understands the word, who indeed bears fruit and brings forth that which is some hundred, some sixty, some thirty(fold). (Mt 13:23, AT)





MATTHEW 13:23 FRUITFUL FOLLOWERS



- 8 Produce **fruit** in keeping with repentance... 10 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every **tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.** (Mt 3:8, 10, NIV)





MATTHEW 13:23 FRUITFUL FOLLOWERS



- 16 By their **fruit** you will recognize them. Do people pick **grapes** from **thornbushes**, or **figs** from **thistles**? 17 Likewise, every **good tree bears good fruit**, but a **bad tree bears bad fruit**. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is **cut down and thrown into the fire**. 20 Thus, by their **fruit** you will recognize them. (Mt 7:16-20, NIV)

