

## **PULPIT MINISTRY: MAY 2015**

Theme: **A Seed of Highest Quality**

### **MORNING WORSHIP**

**3 May 2015**

Text: **Matthew 13**

Title: **THE SOWER AND THE SEED**

### **THE PAST CONTEXT OF THE WORK OF EVANGELISM DURING THE TIMES OF JESUS**

1. Facing opposition from the religious leaders - The traditionalist (Matthew 13:14,24)
2. The great multitude (Matthew 13:15) - The self-absorbed
3. His own family members (Matthew 13:46) - The familiar
4. The bigger picture – The whole generation
  - a) An evil and adulterous generation (Matthew 12:39)
  - b) A wicked generation (Matthew 12:45)

### **THE PROPHETIC CONTEXT OF THE SINFUL STATE OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL**

1. The people - Fallow and thorny ground (Jeremiah 4:3)
2. Foolish people without understanding (Jeremiah 5:21)
  - a) Having eyes but do not see
  - b) Having ears but do not hear

### **THE PRESENT CONTEXT WITH REFERENCE TO HEARTS SEEN AS FALLOW GROUND**

1. The hardened heart (Matthew 13:19)
2. The shallow heart (Matthew 13:20-21)
3. The distracted heart (Matthew 13:22)

## **THE CHALLENGE TO HAVE A GOOD AND NOBLE HEART**

1. It receives the word well (Matthew 13:23, Luke 8:15)
2. It hears the word with high regard
  - a) Receives it
  - b) Understands it with the heart
  - c) Keeps it with patience
3. It bears good fruit – Faith, hope and love
  - a) 100 fold
  - b) 60 fold
  - c) 30 fold
4. Examples of having a good and noble heart
  - a) The twelve disciples who followed Jesus (Luke 8:1)
  - b) A group of ladies who provided for Jesus (Luke 8:23)
  - c) The centurion with great faith (Luke 7:1-10)