



THE GOSPEL OF  
**LUKE**

MINISTRY IN  
GALILEE





# THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

— Luke 8:1-21 —



Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

— vv 1-3



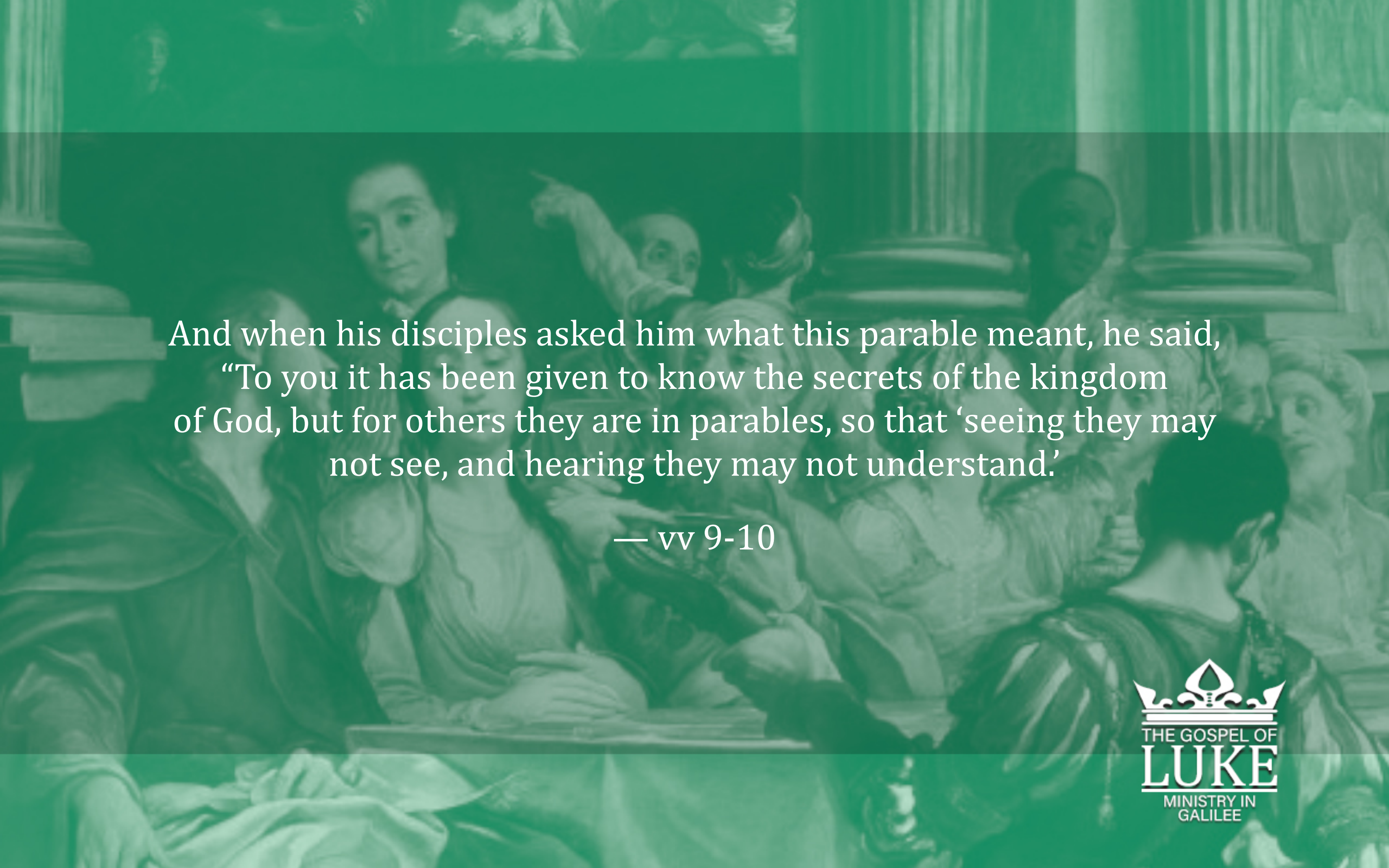


And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

— vv 4-8







And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said,  
“To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom  
of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may  
not see, and hearing they may not understand.’

— vv 9-10



Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

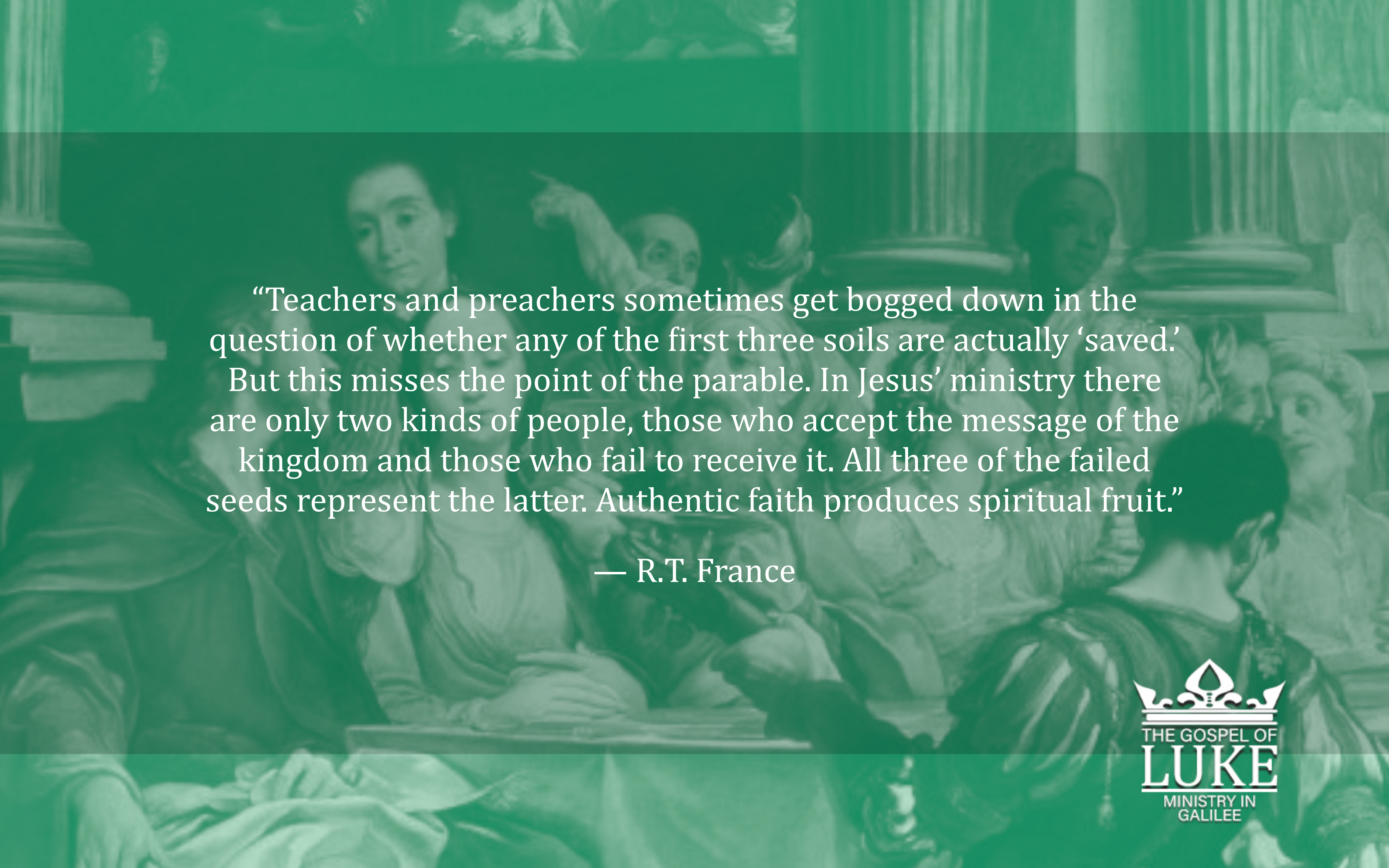
And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.

As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

— vv 11-15





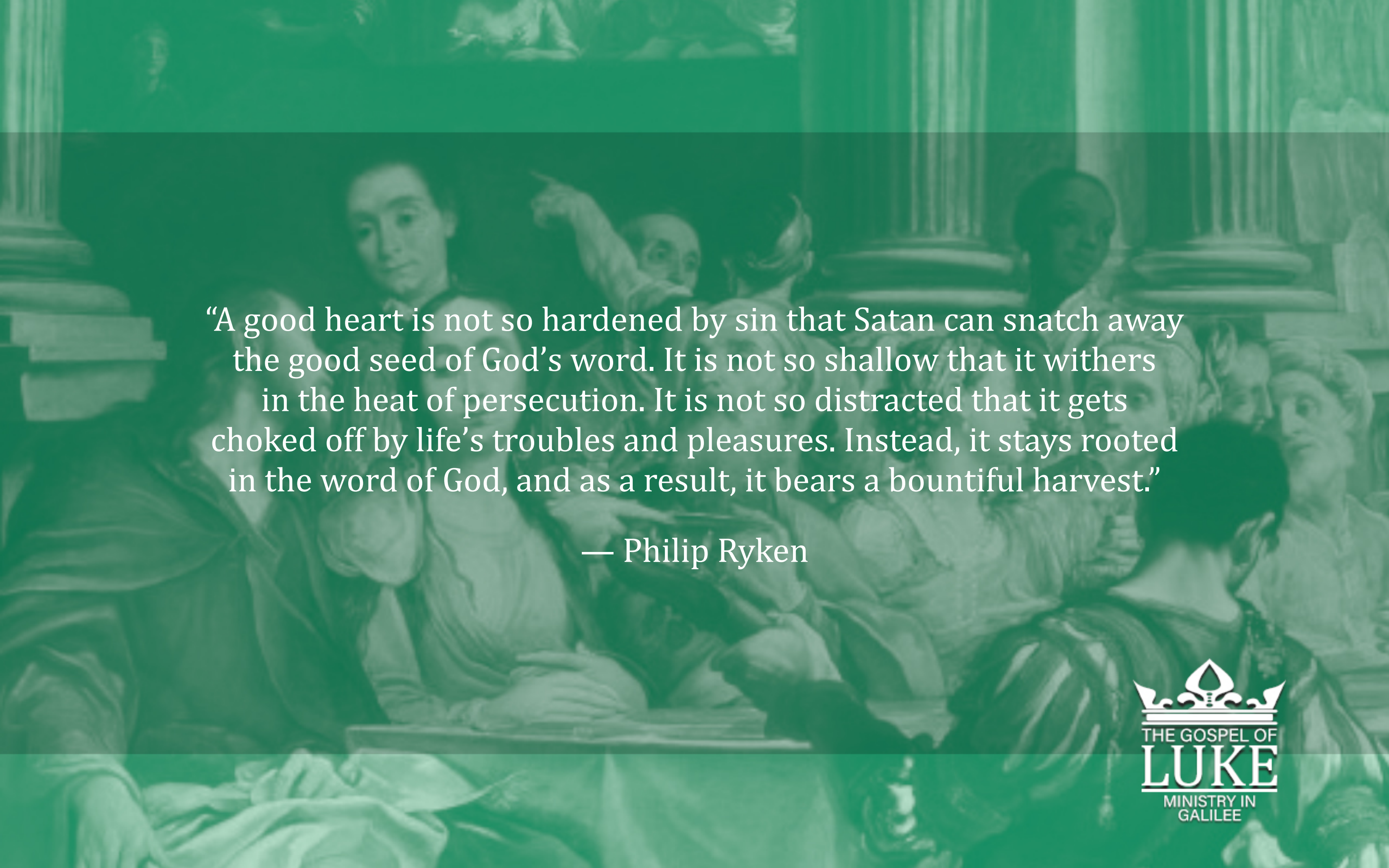


“Teachers and preachers sometimes get bogged down in the question of whether any of the first three soils are actually ‘saved.’ But this misses the point of the parable. In Jesus’ ministry there are only two kinds of people, those who accept the message of the kingdom and those who fail to receive it. All three of the failed seeds represent the latter. Authentic faith produces spiritual fruit.”

— R.T. France







“A good heart is not so hardened by sin that Satan can snatch away the good seed of God’s word. It is not so shallow that it withers in the heat of persecution. It is not so distracted that it gets choked off by life’s troubles and pleasures. Instead, it stays rooted in the word of God, and as a result, it bears a bountiful harvest.”

— Philip Ryken



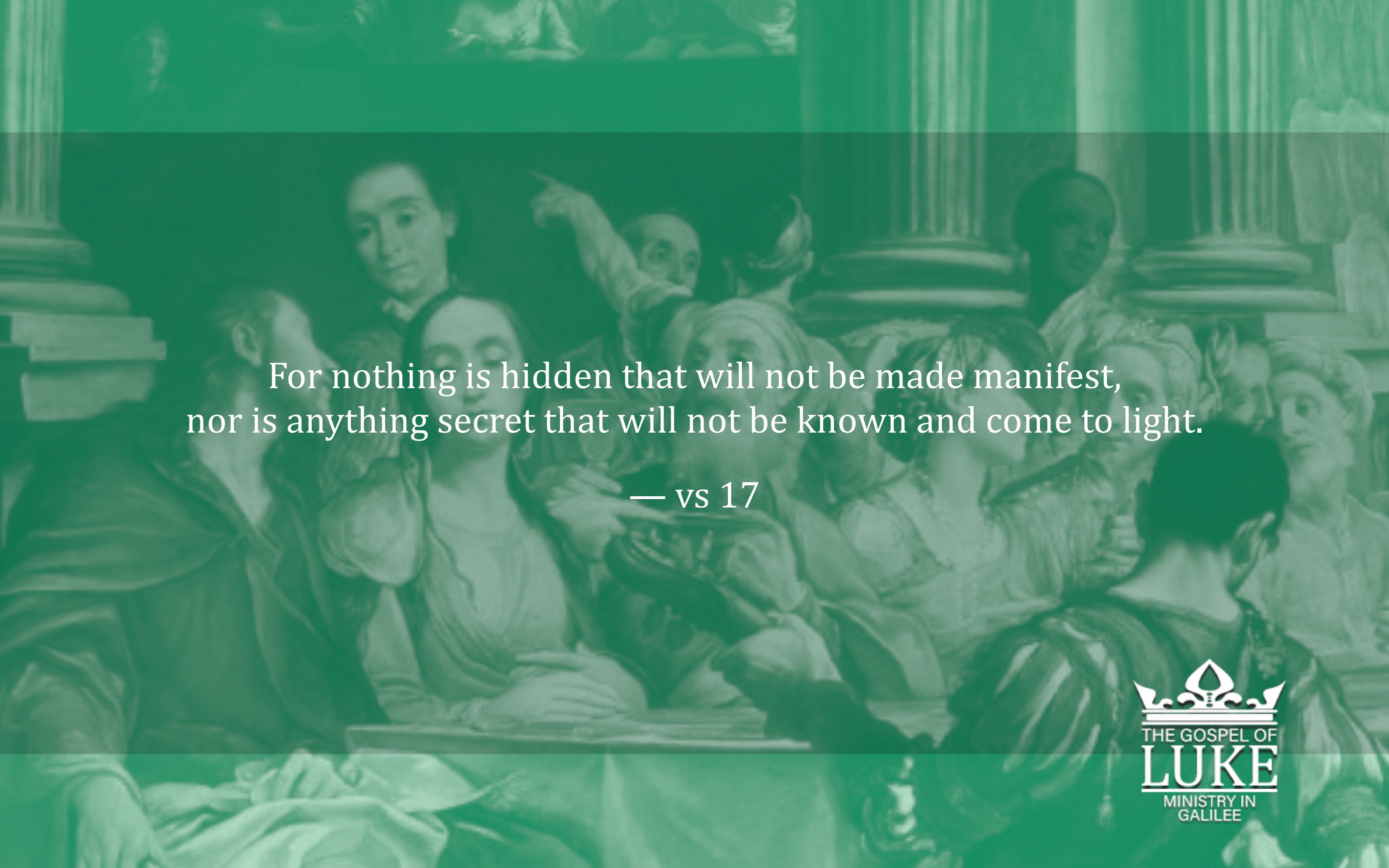




“No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed,  
but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light.

— vs 16

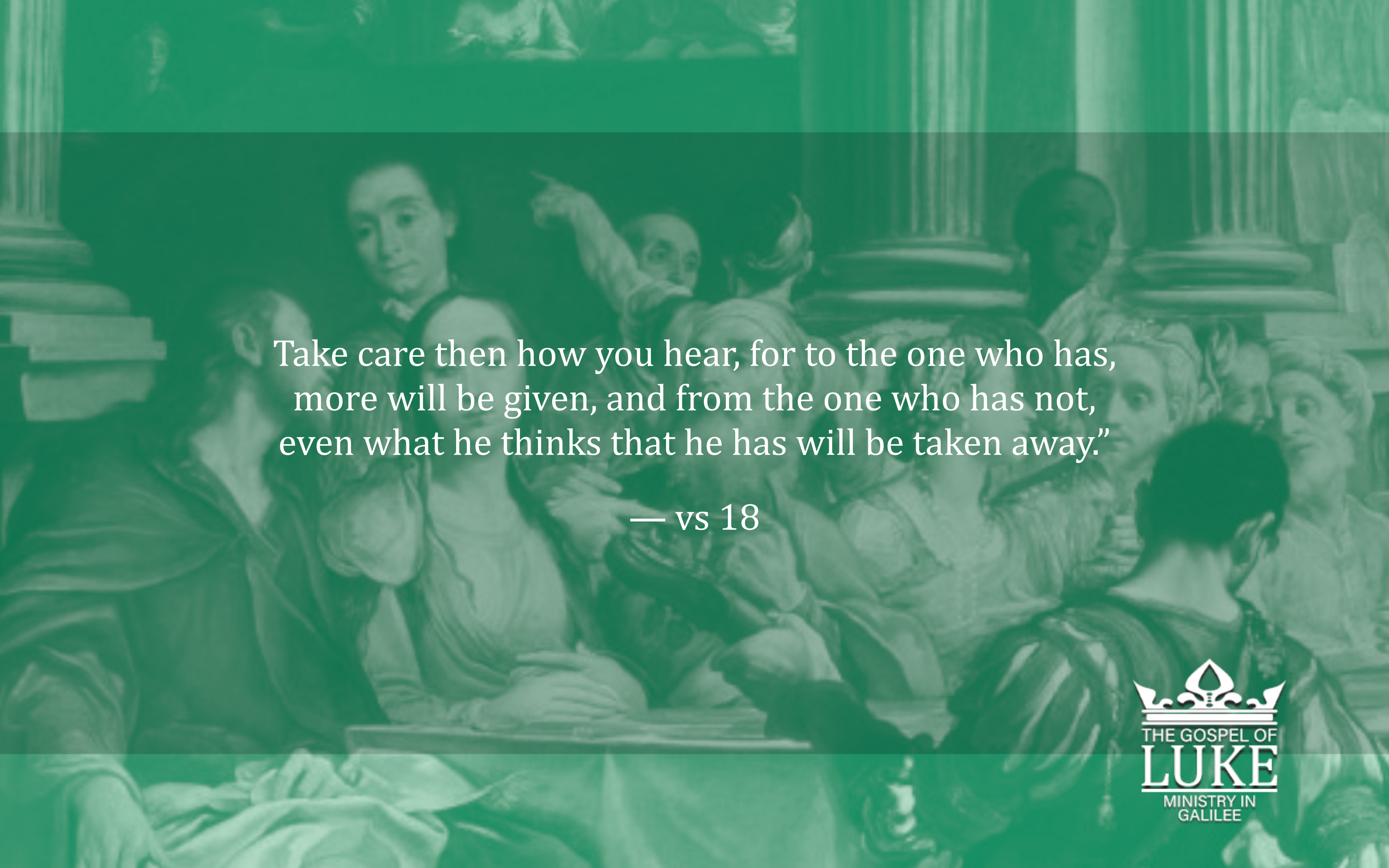




For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest,  
nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.

— vs 17





Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has,  
more will be given, and from the one who has not,  
even what he thinks that he has will be taken away.”

— vs 18



“People who put God’s word into action grow in Christ, and as a result, they are able to learn more and more of his truth. For example, they begin to share their faith, and as they share their faith, they come to a clearer understanding of the gospel. Or they begin to give their money to Christian work. The more they give, the more they want to give, and eventually they learn that everything they have belongs to the Lord, and is to be used for his glory. Knowledge builds on knowledge, especially when spiritual knowledge is put into practice. Knowing is by doing, and the more we do, the more we are able to know. On the other hand, if we never do anything with what we know, then we never grow in spiritual knowledge, because we really know only what we use.”

— Philip Ryken



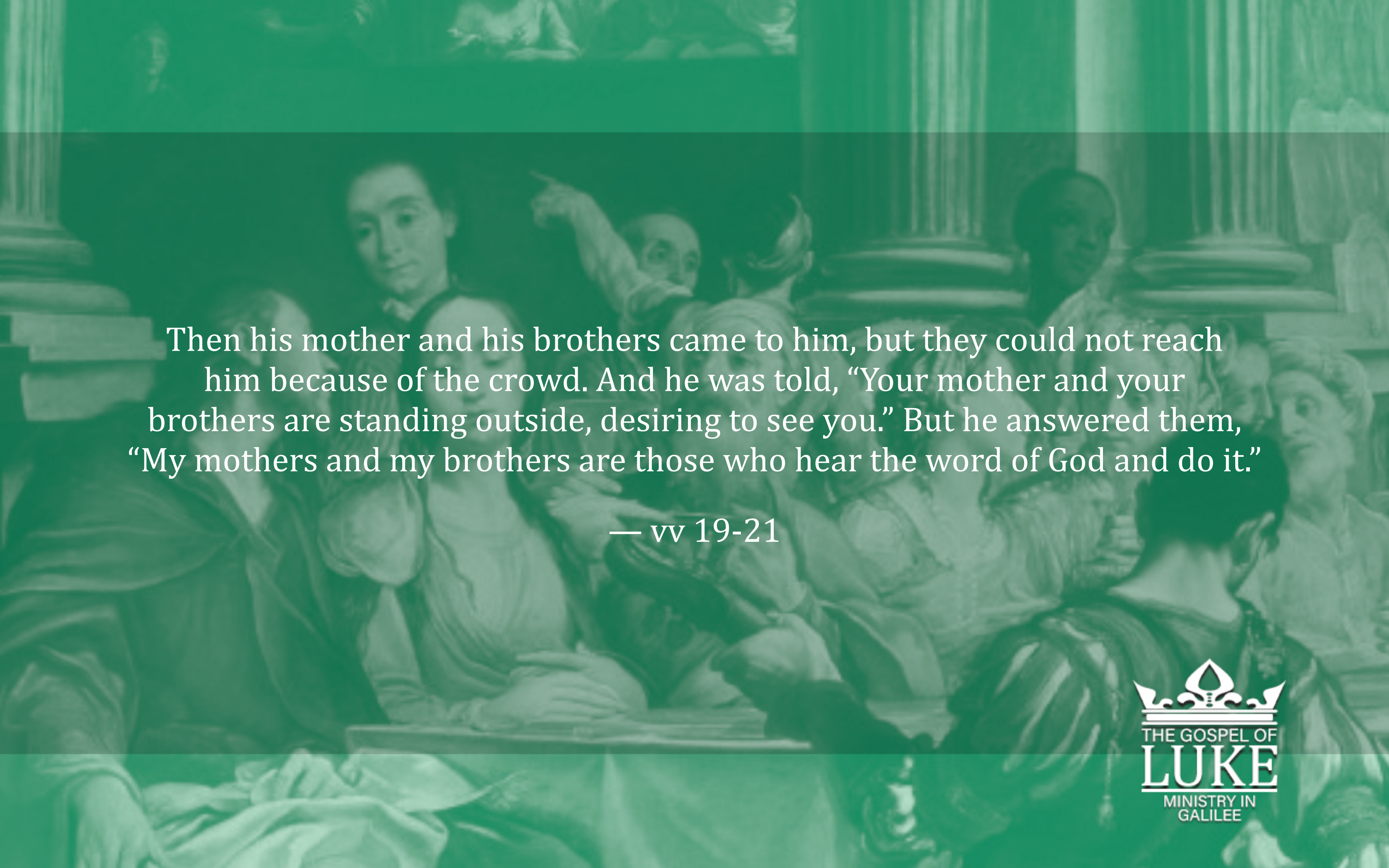




What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me —  
practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

— Philippians 4:9





Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you.” But he answered them, “My mothers and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.”

— vv 19-21



“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

— Luke 6:46-49







“My mothers and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.”

— vs 21



But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

— Galatians 4:4-7

In love he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

— Ephesians 1:4-6





The seed that finds a stony soil shoots forth a hasty blade;  
But ill repays the sower's toil — soon withered, scorched, and dead.

The thorny ground is sure to balk all hopes of harvest there;  
We find a tall and sickly stalk but not the fruitful ear.

The beaten path and high-way side receive the trust in vain;  
The watchful birds the spoil divide and pick up all the grain.

But where the Lord of grace and power has blessed the happy field;  
How plenteous is the golden store the deep wrought furrows yield!

— William Cowper, "The Sower"







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