

## GOSPEL PEARLS

# It depends on us

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*"Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty." (Matthew 13: 18-23)*

God's Grace is necessary for eternal salvation. It is abundantly sown in the soil of human hearts. Divine fidelity is, therefore, constant, while our own faithfulness is not. It has its ups and downs. The decisive element of our eternal salvation is found in the heart of each of us. It is where the Word of God can be heard, accepted, loved and obeyed. Having the good soil on which seeds fall and grow, depends on us.