Parable of the Soils –

Jesus knew 3/4 of his work to be lost –
3 out of four hearers disappointing him.

Sower all alone – nothing attractive or exciting –
"with a superb gesture he who has nothing scatters far + wide the bread of the future" –

Suppose success had depended on the preacher + on the quality + character of the word –
He knew success depended on the hearer too –

Tragedy of unreceptiveness –

A crop may fail for 3 reasons – 1. seed bad 2. Sower does his work poorly 3. in the soil

4 classes – 3 who disappoint Jesus.

1. beaten track – hard – roadside type –
does not take in – shallow mind –
preoccupied –

2. Stony soil – not well cleared – rock –
real enthusiasm – disappointing – impulsive
glow in face – ("Pliable" + "Christian")

3. Thorny ground Christians

4. class that rewarded Jesus – listened – heard – understood –