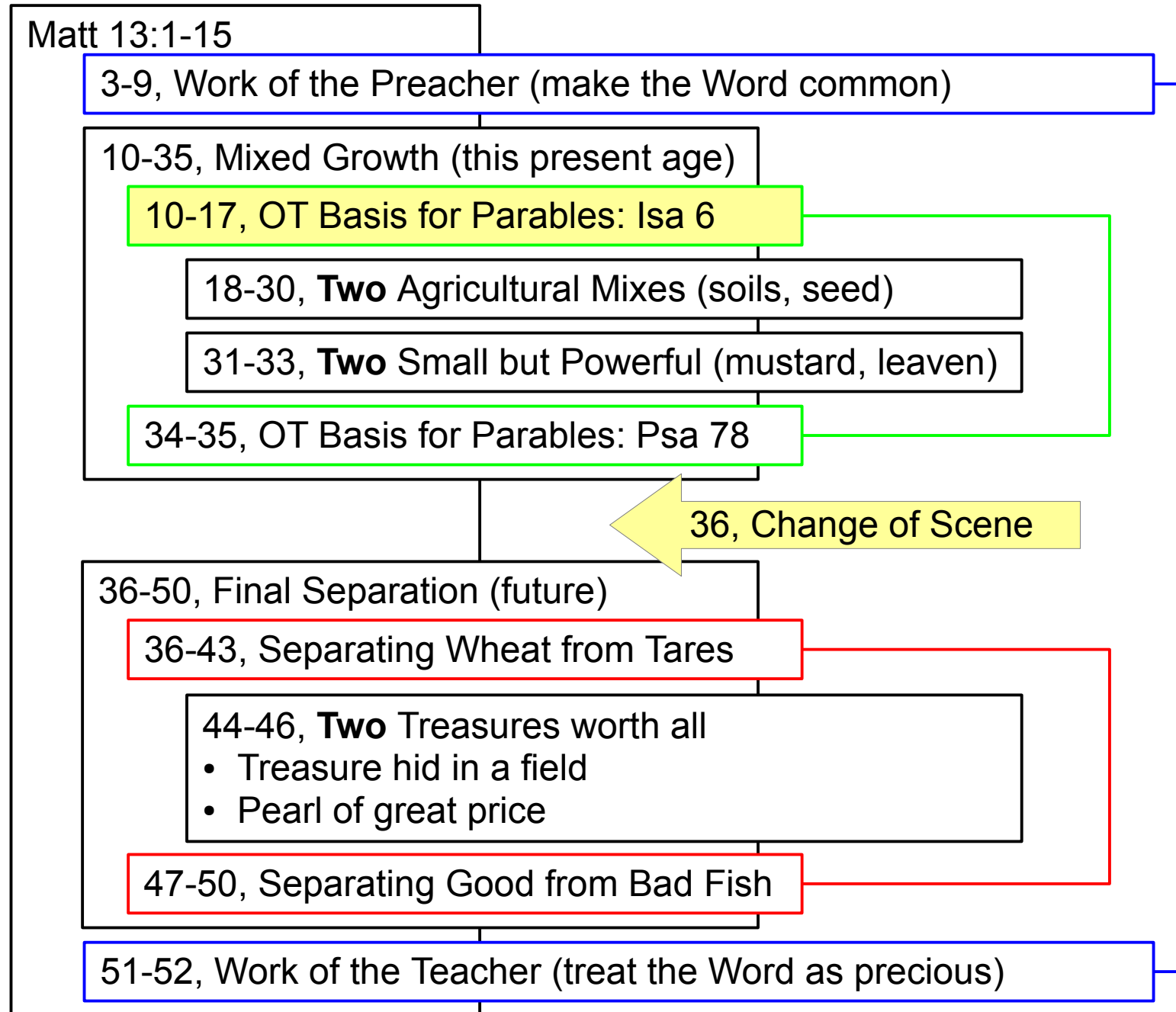


# Treasure Hunt

1. What is the significance of the broken symmetry between the first and the last elements of the chiasm in vv. 13-17?
2. What is the meaning of the seed in the parable?
3. The Lord calls this the parable of the sower. What should we learn about sowing from this parable?
4. Can you give an example from the Bible that illustrates each of the soils?
5. What scriptural evidence is there for the spiritual state of the stony soil?
6. How about the thorny soil?
7. What is the significance of each element in Deut 6:5 that we are to devote completely to the Lord our God?

# Structure of Matt 13:1-52



# Our Lord Expands Isaiah's Chiasm

See ... Hear	13b because they <b>seeing</b> see not; and <b>hearing</b> they hear not, neither do they <b>understand</b> .		... to <b>see</b> <i>those things</i> which ye see, and have not seen <i>them</i> ; and to <b>hear</b> <i>those things</i> which ye hear, and have not heard <i>them</i> . (???)
Prophecy	14 And in them is <b>fulfilled</b> the <b>prophecy</b> of Esaias, which saith,		17 For verily I say unto you, That many <b>prophets</b> and righteous <i>men</i> have <b>desired</b> ...
Hear	By <b>hearing</b> ye shall hear, and shall not understand;		and your ears, for they <b>hear</b> .
See	and <b>seeing</b> ye shall see, and shall not perceive:		16 But blessed <i>are</i> your eyes, for they <b>see</b> :
Heart	15 For this people's <b>heart</b> is waxed gross,		and should <b>understand</b> with <i>their heart</i> , and should be converted, and I should heal them.
Ears	and <i>their ears</i> are dull of hearing,		and <b>hear</b> with <i>their ears</i> ,
Eyes	and their <b>eyes</b> they have closed;		lest at any time they should <b>see</b> with <i>their eyes</i> ,

Isa 6:9

Isa 6:10

# The Longing of the Prophets

See ... Hear	13b because they <b>seeing</b> see not; and <b>hearing</b> they <b>hear</b> not, neither do they understand.		... to <b>see</b> <i>those things</i> which ye see, and have not seen <i>them</i> ; and to <b>hear</b> <i>those things</i> which ye <b>hear</b> , and have not <b>heard</b> <i>them</i> .
Prophecy	14 And in them is <b>fulfilled</b> the <b>prophecy</b> of Esaias, which saith,		17 For verily I say unto you, That many <b>prophets</b> and righteous <i>men</i> have <b>desired</b> ...
Hear	By <b>hearing</b> ye shall <b>hear</b> , and shall not understand;		and your ears, for they <b>hear</b> .
See	and <b>seeing</b> ye shall see, and shall not perceive:		16 But blessed <i>are</i> your eyes, for they <b>see</b> :
Heart	15 For this people's <b>heart</b> is waxed gross,		and should understand with <i>their</i> <b>heart</b> , and should be converted, and I should heal them.
Ears	and <i>their</i> <b>ears</b> are dull of hearing,		and hear with <i>their</i> <b>ears</b> ,
Eyes	and their <b>eyes</b> they have closed;		lest at any time they should see with <i>their</i> <b>eyes</b> ,

1Pe 1:10 Of which salvation the **prophets** have **enquired and searched diligently**, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you: 11 Searching what [time], or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

# Broken Symmetry

13b because they **seeing**  
see not;

and **hearing** they **hear** not,

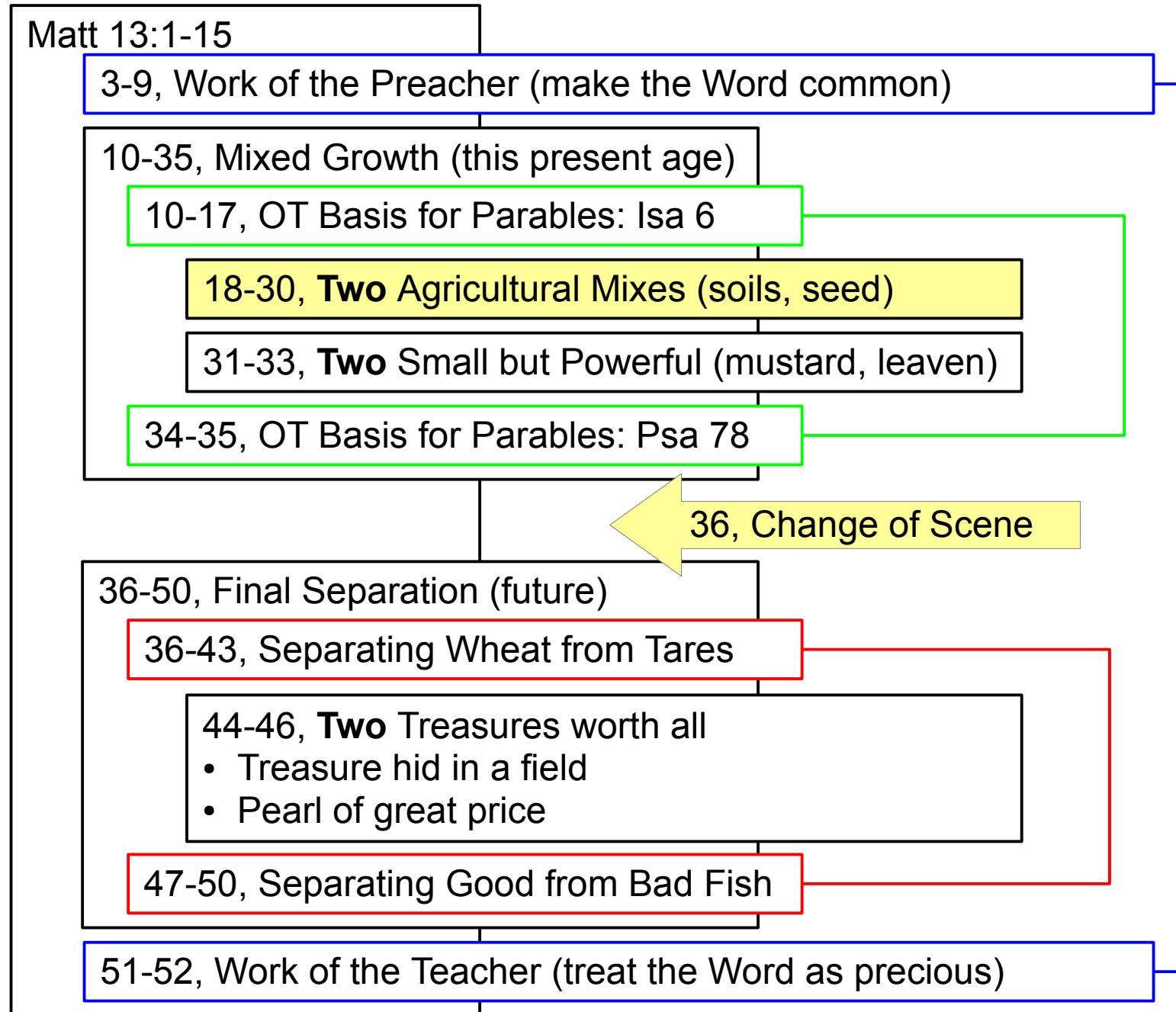
neither do they **understand**.

17b ... to **see** *those things* which ye  
**see**, and have not **seen** *them*;

and to **hear** *those things* which ye  
**hear**, and have not **heard** *them*.

???

# Structure of Matt 13:1-52



# The *Shema* and Agriculture

The daily Jewish prayer includes not only Deut 6:4-9, but also Deut 11:13-19 and Num 15:37-41. Note the second of these:

Deu 11:13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall **hearken diligently** [שמע תשמעון “hear with hearing”] unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, 14 That I will give *you* the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. 15 And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.

# The State of the Stony Soil

Mat 24:9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

2Ti 4:16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all *men* forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their charge. 17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

v. 21 “he ... dureth for a while” = Luke 8:13 “for a while believe” → a transient, passing belief. Salvation is associated with continuing belief (present tense):

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Joh 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and **believeth** on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.



# The State of the Thorny Soil

2Ti 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world,

What happens to fruitless plants and soil?

Mat 3:10 every tree which **bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.**

Joh 15:6 If a man abide not in me, he is **cast forth as a branch**, and is withered; and men gather them, and **cast *them* into the fire**, and they are burned.

Jud 1:12 trees whose fruit withereth, **without fruit**, twice dead, **plucked up** by the roots;

Heb 6:7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: 8 But **that which beareth thorns and briers** *is* rejected, and *is* nigh unto cursing; whose **end *is* to be burned.**

# Deut 6:5, God's Private Property

Deu 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God

- with all thine heart לבב, *often describes the locus of pride*

Psa 101:5 him that hath an high look and a **proud heart** will not I suffer.

Pro 16:5 Every one *that is proud in heart* is an abomination to the LORD: *though hand join in hand*, he shall not be unpunished.

Pro 21:4 An high look, and a **proud heart**, *and* the plowing of the wicked, *is* sin.

*cf. "heart lifted up" (e.g., Ezek 28)*

- and with all thy soul נפש, *note common meaning "physical life"*

Gen 9:4, 5 But flesh with the **life** thereof, *which is* the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. 5 And surely your blood of your **lives** will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the **life** of man.

- and with all thy might מאד. *not the usual Hebrew word for "might" (קיל); usually an adverb, meaning "exceedingly"*

*Appears twice in the Damascus Document (a pre-Christian Hebrew sectarian text found at Qumran) with the meaning of "property"*

*Suggest: "all thine abundance"*