

# These Have No Root

by C.H. Spurgeon

---

*True growth and endurance in faith require a rootedness in sincerity and love for Jesus, cultivated by the Holy Spirit.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 13:20

**Topics:** "Genuine Faith", "Spiritual Growth"

---

## Description

C.H. Spurgeon emphasizes the necessity of deep, genuine faith in Christ, warning against superficial acceptance of the Word that lacks true inward transformation. He illustrates this through the parable of the seed sown on rocky ground, which initially shows promise but ultimately withers due to a lack of deep roots. Spurgeon urges self-examination to ensure that one's heart is softened and receptive to God's grace, as true growth in faith requires both upward and downward development. He cautions that without a sincere relationship with Jesus, one's faith may appear vibrant but will ultimately fail under trials. The preacher calls for believers to seek the Holy Spirit's work in their lives to cultivate a lasting and fruitful faith.

---

## Transcript

My soul, examine thyself this morning by the light of this text. Thou hast received the word with joy; thy feelings have been stirred and a lively impression has been made; but, remember, that to receive the word in the ear is one thing, and to receive Jesus into thy very soul is quite another; superficial feeling is often joined to inward hardness of heart, and a lively impression of the word is not always a lasting one. In the parable, the seed in one case fell upon ground having a rocky bottom, covered over with a thin layer of earth; when the seed began to take root, its downward growth was hindered by the hard stone and therefore it spent its strength in pushing its green shoot aloft as high as it could, but having no inward moisture derived from root nourishment, it withered away.

Is this my case? Have I been making a fair show in the flesh without having a corresponding inner life? Good growth takes place upwards and downwards at the same time. Am I rooted in sincere fidelity and love to Jesus? If my heart remains unsoftened and unfertilized by grace, the good seed may germinate for a season, but it must ultimately wither, for it cannot flourish on a rocky, unbroken, unsanctified heart. Let me dread a godliness as rapid in growth and as wanting in endurance as Jonah's gourd; let me count the cost of being a follower of Jesus, above all let me feel the energy of His Holy Spirit, and then I shall possess an abiding and enduring seed in my soul.

If my mind remains as obdurate as it was by nature, the sun of trial will scorch, and my hard heart will help to cast the heat the more terribly upon the ill-covered seed, and my religion will soon die, and my despair will be terrible; therefore, O heavenly Sower, plough me first, and then cast the truth into me, and let me yield Thee a bounteous harvest.

---

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ch-spurgeon/these-have-no-root/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**