

A DIVIDED INTEREST

The image features a solid dark blue background. Two horizontal, glowing orange light streaks are positioned in the lower half of the frame, one above the other, creating a subtle gradient effect. The text "A DIVIDED INTEREST" is centered in the upper half of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Jesus said: “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other.

Matt 6.24

You cannot serve God and wealth."

“For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on.

**Worried - μεριμνάω - meri-
mn-aho worrying due to a
divided interest**

Why is Jesus saying NOT to Worry?

**No one can serve two masters –
you will have a divided loyalty**

God wants to be your SOURCE so that you do not rely on your own ability.

Jesus is literally telling us NOT to be divided in your trust for Him regarding things in your life that you need.

God wants to be supreme in your life. He wants you to rely on Him for your needs.

Don't say in your heart *“my power
and the strength of my hand made
me this.*

Deuteronomy 8.17

Jesus makes the point very CLEAR

we are more important than the
birds of the air, which neither sow,
nor reap nor gather into barns, and
yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Matthew 6.26

The Greek word **μεριμνάω** (meri-mn-aho) is built upon two root words **μερίζω** (mer-id-dzo) and **μέριμνα** (mer-im-na) which embrace the idea of **being divided in your interest.**

God does not want you to be divided in your loyalty to “TRUST” Him neither does He want you to be distracted by the cares of this life so that you trust in your own ability.

In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus pointed out to the disciples that the cares of this life make the *Word of God* “unfruitful.” The cares of this life “suffocate” the “Word.”

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

The image features a solid dark blue background. Two horizontal, glowing orange light streaks are positioned symmetrically above and below the central text, creating a subtle frame. The text is centered and rendered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: “Behold, a sower went out to sow.

And as he sowed, some *seed* fell
by the wayside; and the birds
came and devoured them.

Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth and when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

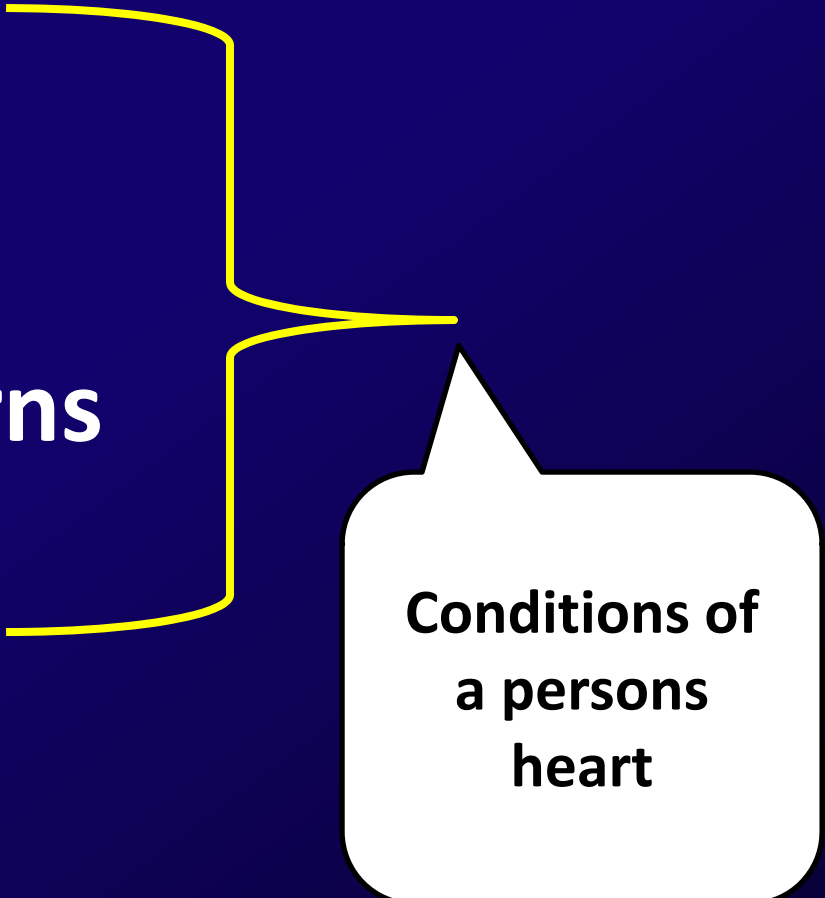
And some fell among thorns, and
the thorns sprang up and choked
them.

But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

**He who has ears to hear, let him
hear!”**

Where did the seed fall?

1. Wayside
2. Stony Places
3. Among the Thorns
4. Good Ground



Conditions of
a persons
heart

**The seed is the Word of God and it
is Spoken to your heart?**

“Now the parable is this:

The seed is the Word of God.

Those by the **wayside** are the ones who hear; **then the devil comes** and takes away the word **out of their hearts,** lest they should **believe and be saved**

These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time.

Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble

Mathew 13

Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the

cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

μεριμνάω - meri-mn-aho
worrying due to a divided
interest

Mathew 13

Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the

and having a divided interest in the world being deceived by riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

μεριμνάω - meri-mn-aho
worrying due to a divided
interest

A Vessel of honor

But the ones *that* fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep *it* and bear fruit with patience.

Jesus explained the parable:

he who received seed (*i.e. the Word of God*) among the thorns is he, who hears the “Word” and because of a divided interest the **deceitfulness of riches choke the Word, and he becomes unfruitful.**

The Scriptures say: **seek first His kingdom and all these things will be added to you.** God is saying to you that “**He will Provide**”

Don't have a divided interest with God thereby cause **μέριμνα** (mer-im-na) a distraction with anxiety.

Jesus raises the questions for you to answer:

Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? “And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? “And why are you worried about clothing?

**“Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’
“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”**

Matthew 6:25-34

“So do not worry about tomorrow;
for tomorrow will care for itself. Each
day has enough trouble of its own.”

Matthew 6:25-34

μεριμνάω (**meri-mn-aho**) also has another aspect to its definition. It embraces the idea **promoting your own interest**. Thus, Jesus was saying you cannot promote your own interest and His at the same time.

Luke 16.13

You cannot serve your own interest and God's at the same time. You cannot serve two masters. You will be devoted one and not the other.

Luke 16.13

God says seek Him and He will add these things to you. He requires total trust and loyalty. He must be supreme in your life.

Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. "So do not have a divided interest about tomorrow; for tomorrow will have a divided interest for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

CLOSING