



Teachings and Parables of Jesus Pt 8: The Parable of the Weeds

October 20, 2019

Last week, we looked at the four types of hearts Jesus taught about in the Parable of the Sower:

1. The **Wayside** Heart (Matt 13:4, 19)
2. The **Stony** Heart (Matt 13:5-6, 20)
3. The **Thorny** Heart (Matt 13:7, 22)
4. The **Good-Ground** Heart (Matt 13:8, 23)

THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS (OR THE WHEAT AND TARES)

Matthew 13:24-30 (KJV) Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? 28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

- In the Kingdom, good seed will be sown! (v24)
- This seed, when it is healthy, is imaged as wheat. (v25)
- This image of wheat is chosen on purpose to show the **importance** of the good seed.
- But wherever the King is working, the evil one also attempts to do his devilish work. (v25)
- The word tares means a darnel, or **false** grain.
- Note, the enemy doesn't always hang around; he just sows seeds of damage and discord and retreats. (v25)
- The wheat and the tares grow up **together**. This is scary stuff! (vv26-27)
- The householder knew the answer right way: "an enemy did this." (v28)
- It is extremely difficult to **identify**, much less remove a tare!

OUR LORD'S EXPLANATION OF THE PARABLE

Matthew 13:36-43 (KJV) Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field. 37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. 40 As therefore the tares

are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

OBSERVATIONS

1. Like the previous parable (of the Sower), the Sower is Jesus, the Son of man. (v37)
2. Since Jesus is LORD (1 Cor 12:3), LORD of All (Acts 10:36), and the creator and ruler of this world (Col 1:16), He pictures Himself as a householder/farmer and the whole world as His field where He grows things and does His work. (v38)
3. The good seed are people...**saved** people...the redeemed of the LORD. (v38)
4. The good seed, or “children of the kingdom,” can also be called the visible **Church**.
5. The devil, works to infiltrate the LORD’s Church, sowing as tares those that belong to him. (v39)
6. Why? To **degrade** the work of God! How better to slow the growth of the Kingdom than from the inside?
7. There are two kinds of people in the world: the children of God and the children of the devil. You are either one or the other! (1 John 3:10)
8. Where there are churches (good seed), there will be **false** converts.
9. Also note “who” fell asleep at the switch, the men (v25) He put in charge! What a warning to church leaders and even to heads of houses. Don’t sleep! The enemy is working! Watch and pray!
10. Friend, **harvest** time is coming. The end of the world is coming. The reapers of the LORD are coming! (v39)
11. With love and mercy, please know that the tares (children of the devil) will be separated, gathered up, and burned with fire. All things that offend (“all causes of sin and all law-breakers” - ESV) will be cast into the furnace of fire, otherwise known as **hell**. (vv40-41)

WHAT NOW?

1. Are you ready for the end of the world? Is your spouse? Are your children, or co-workers?
2. Here is the truth of the Gospel:

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 (KJV) Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Jesus Christ, the Son of God and God the Son, came to this earth through the virgin Mary, revealed the truths of God, lived the perfect life in our place, died on the cross to pay the penalty of sin that we might be brought into relationship with God. He rose again on the third day, and gives eternal life to those He has called, who believe in Him by His grace and through

faith. Those who reject Him will spend eternity apart from Him in Hell. At a future date, He will return to complete the restoration of God's creation.

3. To receive the eternal life Christ offers:

REPENT

Romans 3:23 (KJV) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 6:23 (KJV) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Acts 17:30-31 (KJV) And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Mark 1:15 (KJV) And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

BELIEVE

John 8:24 (KJV) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

John 3:16 (KJV) 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.

Romans 10:9-11 (KJV) That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

The LORD loves you! Repent, believe, and share His wonderful message!

Amen!