

THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND THE TARES
Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-40

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Updated 09/15/23

Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-40

24 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.

36 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.

This parable is one of the "the Kingdom of Heaven is like" parables. All parables which start off in this manner are teaching on certain aspects of the Pathway to Salvation.

Christ presents the parable in **Mat 13:24-30** and then later, He personally explains it to the Apostles with another parable (**Mat 13:36-40**).

Scripture tells us that Christ only taught in parables:

Matt 13:34 All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them:

God's Word says that Christ only taught in parables so that the truth of what He was teaching would be hidden from all but those He has chosen:

Matt 13:10-11 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.

However, at this time, the Apostles could not understand the parable even after Christ explained it to them with another parable.

For a person to properly understand the parables and all the teachings of Christ, Christ must heal the person's spiritual blindness. Christ only does this work within a person when He gives them the Latter Rain of the Spirit - and He only gives this gift of the Holy Spirit to those who have been chosen from the foundation of the world. No one else will be given the ability to understand and receive the truth of God's Word during their present lifetimes. Most of mankind has simply not been chosen to be saved in this age.

Matt 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

1Cor 15:22-23 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order...

Most of mankind will not be called out in this age but many are. Then from the many, a few are chosen. Those chosen few will become the First Fruits of Christ's harvest of mankind in this age.

Christ also said that the Kingdom of Heaven comes within a person (**Luke 17:20-21**). Because of this truth, the parables must be applied within us to properly understand their message.

The Old Covenant is physical & outward and tries to make one righteous through man's own works. But the New Covenant is different. The New Covenant is spiritual & inward and is 100% the work of Christ. Christ does His work within us (without our asking or choosing) only because of His Grace. No work is required on mankind's part because we have no ability to perform any. Only Christ can spiritually change a person (conversion). In our spiritually marred and carnally minded condition we have from birth, we won't even seek Him out:

Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

For this reason, Christ must come to us FIRST. And as I stated earlier, He comes to us strictly because of His Grace. No person is more worthy of salvation than anyone else. We are all at the mercy of Christ to come to us and save us. The people who have been chosen to be saved in this age, are saved only because they are blessed by God. They did nothing to deserve their chosen status.

The message of the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares is presented in Christ's spiritual language using spiritual symbols. The meanings of these symbols can only be understood when we compare "spiritual with spiritual" as Paul said to do:

1Cor 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Once the symbols are understood, we must apply their spiritual meanings within us to properly understand Christ's message.

In the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares, the harvest at the end of the world is a believer's moment of conversion when they receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit from Christ. That is the point when the Man of Sin (**2Thes 2:1-4**) is destroyed and the new child of God is born.

Here is a short summary of the meaning of the parable:

Mankind is the field in the world. When Christ comes to a person the first time, He will give them the Early Rain of the Spirit (what Paul received on the Damascus Road). This is when Christ plants His seed within them. When the seed grows into wheat, it will be ready for the harvest.

However, at the time Christ plants His seed within a person, Christ will leave them carnally minded & spiritually blind. As a result, they will not be able to understand the truth of God's Word (**Mark 8:21-25**). Christ, the Word of God, will remain veiled from their understanding.

Soon after a believer receives the Early Rain of the Spirit, Satan will also come to them. When he comes, he will come to them at night (represents their time of spiritual blindness) and will likewise plant his seed within them (spirit of anti-Christ). This event will result in the Abomination of Desolation within the believer (God's Temple). When Satan's seed grows into a Tare (Man of Sin), it will be ready for the judgment of Christ (burned by fire).

As a result of both the child of God (Wheat) and the child of the Devil (Tare) living within a believer, the believer will begin mixing faith (what a child of God walks by) with works (what a child of the Devil walks by). This mixture of faith and works will cause the believer to fall away because they cannot serve two masters (**Mat 6:24**).

Note: Mixing faith with works is the sin that leads to death (**1John 5:16**).

After an Elect believer has fallen away from faith alone, they cannot be renewed by repentance (**Heb 6:4-6**). Their only hope for salvation is for Christ to come to them a second time. Christ will do so when the Wheat is ready to be harvested. This time of the harvest is called the Second Coming of Christ when Christ gives an Elect believer the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This is the same event that the Apostles experienced on the Day of Pentecost and it is the same event Paul experienced after being blind and unable to eat or drink for three days in Damascus. This event is also called the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

When Christ gives an Elect believer the Latter Rain, the believer's spiritual blindness will be immediately healed. Now, for the first time, the Elect believer will be able to understand the truth of God's Word. From the new knowledge that they received at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, the Man of Sin will be revealed to them and quickly judged. This judgment is called the Day of the Lord/Thousand Years Reign. From this judgment, the Man of Sin will be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's appearance (**2Thes 2:8**). This will complete the conversion event.

Most of the teachings of Christ in the Gospels and the teachings of the Apostles are interconnected and they teach on the pathway that leads to salvation. These teachings are commonly called End-time Prophecies by the church. However, the church greatly misunderstands the truth

that these prophecies are teaching. These prophecies are NOT teaching about future coming world events which are said to come at the end of this age.

The End-time Prophecies are teaching on how and when the “ends of the ages” come upon the Elect:

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

Also, the teachings on the Pathway to Salvation are taught in bits & pieces with a "little here and a little there". The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares is no exception.

Isa 28: 10-12 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and another language (Christ's spiritual language) will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

The Pathway to Salvation is a long and difficult journey. It starts with the Early Rain of the Spirit when an unbeliever is called out from the world. But because the new believer’s spiritual blindness is not healed by Christ at that time, Satan is able to easily deceive them. From Satan’s deceptions, the believer will fall away and will lose their salvation.

Every called out believer will unknowingly eat Satan’s leavened bread (**Mat 13:33**) shortly after they enter the church. However, if the believer is one of Christ's First Fruits (the Elect), Christ will come to them a second time and give them the Latter Rain of the Spirit. At that time, they will be born again and judged. In other words, the old vessel (child of the Devil) will be destroyed and the new vessel (child of God), which “seemed good to the potter to make”, will be created:

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.