

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

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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 age; 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 age.

This parable is one of the "the Kingdom of Heaven is like" parables. All the parables which begin in this manner are teaching on certain spiritual aspects of the pathway to salvation.

Christ presents the parable in Mat 13:24-30 and then explains it later to the apostles in Mat 13:36-40 with another parable.

Christ did it this way because of what this verse below teaches:

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

The reason Christ only taught in parables was so the truth of what He was teaching would be hidden everyone except the Elect:

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 (the Elect) 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 spiritual 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 the baptism of the Holy Spirit to Elect. No one else will be given the ability to understand and receive the truth of Christ's New Covenant teachings 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 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order...

In fact, most of mankind will not even be called to be a saint in this age – however, many are called. Then, from this group of many, a few have been chosen. These chosen few will become the First Fruits (wheat) 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 it does, the messages taught in Christ's New Covenant teachings must be applied within a person for them to be properly understood. This is certainly true of the parable of the Wheat and the Tares.

Below is a short summary of the spiritual truth that is taught by the parable:

Mankind is the field in the world. When Christ comes to a person the first time, He will plant His seed within them. The “seed” represents a new child of God (wheat) who is being formed in the womb of the individual. The seed is planted when Christ gives the person a small measure of the Holy Spirit. This small amount of the Holy Spirit is called the Early Rain of the Spirit.

For example, Christ planted His seed within Paul as Paul was travelling the Damascus Road (**Acts 9:3-9**). Christ planted His seed within Peter shortly before Peter recognized that Jesus was the Christ (**Mat 16:16-17**).

Only after Christ gives a person the small amount of the Spirit will they have a “measure of faith” (**Rom 12:3**) and the ability to understand and receive the physical teachings of Christ that He performed under the Old Covenant (Christ and Him crucified, **1Cor 2:2**).

When Christ plants His seed within a person, they will make a confession of faith and will be “called to be a saint” (**1Cor 1:2**). However, the small measure of the Holy Spirit will leave the new believer (babe) carnally minded, spiritually blind and unconverted. As a result, they will not be able to understand the spiritual teachings of the New Covenant (**Mark 8:21-25**).

At this time, the new child of God within the womb of the person is not ready to be born. This is the same as saying that the seed within the person has not yet grown into wheat and made ready for the harvest.

Soon after a person receives Christ's seed within them, Satan will come to the same person and plant his seed within them, too. Satan's seed is the “man of sin” (tares). Satan will plant his seed within the person at “night” (represents the person's spiritual blindness) by giving them the spirit of anti-Christ. This event will result in the Abomination of Desolation within the new believer (God's Temple).

Because both the child of God (Wheat) and the man of sin (Tares) are growing within the believer, a spiritual war will commence within them. Since the child of God was formed by only a small measure of the Holy Spirit which left them carnally minded and spiritually blind, the believer will quickly fall for the deceptions of Satan via the spirit of Christ. This will result in the believer accepting Satan's "another gospel" (2Cor 11:4) which mixes works with faith. This false gospel will cause the believer to fall away and become apostate.

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

After the believer has fallen away from faith alone, they cannot be renewed to repentance (Heb 6:4-6). Their only hope for salvation is for Christ to come to them a second time. When Christ comes, He will pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit (baptism of the Holy Spirit). Since the Latter Rain of the Spirit comes with strength (Job 37:6), the seed will grow into wheat and be ready for harvesting.

This is the same event that the Apostles experienced on the Day of Pentecost and it is the same event that Paul experienced after being blind and unable to eat or drink for three days in Damascus.

After Christ gives an Elect believer the Latter Rain of the Spirit, 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 Christ's spiritual teachings of the New Covenant. From the new knowledge that they received at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, the man of sin will be revealed to them and then quickly judged. This judgment is called the Day of the Lord/Thousand Years Reign. From this judgment, the man of sin (tares) within the person will be gathered and burned (destroyed) by the brightness of Christ's appearance (2Thes 2:8).

The verses below apply to this judgment event:

Mat 24:40 "Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.

The spirit word "two men" represents one Elect believer who has both the wheat (child of God) and the tares (man of sin) within them. The tares/man of sin is the one who is taken.

The spirit word "two women" represents the same Elect believer who has both a new spirit and their original marred spirit/Great Harlot within them. The marred spirit/Great Harlot is the one who is taken.

After the man of sin & Great Harlot have been "taken" (gathered from within the believer), they will be cast into the Lake of Fire for destruction:

Rev 19:20 Then the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

This judgment will complete the conversion process for the Elect believer. This is when the wheat is gathered into the barn (Kingdom of Heaven).

A great deal of the teachings of Christ in the four gospels and the teachings of the Apostles are teaching on the spiritual events that lead an Elect person to their moment of conversion. Some of these teachings are presented in the form of end-time prophecy. These prophecies are NOT teaching about future coming world events which are said to come at the literal end of this age.

In truth, all end-time prophecies are actually teaching about how and when the “ends of the ages” come upon an Elect person at their moment of conversion:

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 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts (the converted Elect).¹⁰ 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 (babes) 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 (by Satan).

SUMMARY

The pathway to salvation is a long and difficult journey. It starts when Christ plants His seed (child of God) within a person by giving them a small measure of the Holy Spirit. This gift is called the Early Rain of the Spirit. However, that coming “night”, Satan will plant his seed (man of sin) within them, too. Satan does this by indwelling the person with the spirit of anti-Christ. Because the person is left carnally minded, spiritually blind and unconverted after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, Satan is able to quickly deceive them. From Satan’s deceptions via the spirit of anti-Christ, the person will fall away and become “worse than the first” (**Mat 12:43-45**) – a man of sin. However, if the believer is one of Christ's Elect (wheat), Christ will come to them a second time and give them the Latter Rain of the Spirit. At that time, the wheat will be made ready (faithful) for harvesting. But before the wheat is gathered into the Kingdom of Heaven (the barn), Christ will gather the tares from within the believer and cast them into the Lake of Fire for destruction. This judgment will complete the conversion of the Elect person.

Since Christ was sent by His Father to save all mankind (**1John 4:14**), salvation is not limited to just the First Fruits of His harvest. By the end of the final age, all mankind will be saved and be gathered into the Kingdom of Heaven.

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.