

THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND THE TARES

Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-40

By Joseph Edwards II

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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:

The SOWER is Christ. The FIELD/WORLD is an individual. The SEED represents the Word of God (**Luke 8:11**) who is Christ. It is Christ "in us" who is the child of God (**Gal 4:19**). The WHEAT represents the fully formed child of God that is ready to be harvested into the Kingdom of Heaven. The TARES represent the worsened child of the Devil/Man of Sin. The NIGHT represents the inability of the individual to discern Christ's truth from the lies of Satan due to the individual's spiritual blindness. The BARN represents the Kingdom of Heaven. The HARVEST represents the day of salvation/conversion. The binding & burning of the Tares represents the DAY OF THE LORD/JUDGMENT.

Christ plants His seed in the field when an individual hears the Word of God (Christ). The seed begins to grow after Christ waters the field with the Early Rain of the Spirit. The Early Rain is a small measure of the Holy Spirit and is what Paul received on the Damascus Road. It is at this time that the individual will enter the church and become a babe in Christ. However, the Early Rain will leave the new believer spiritually blind, carnally minded and unconverted. In this condition, the Wheat plant within the person cannot grow to maturity so as to produce its Wheat.

Shortly after Christ plants His seed in the field, Satan will come to the same individual and plant his seed within the person, too. Satan does his planting at night when the individual is still carnally minded and spiritually blind. Satan will then water his seed with the spirit of anti-Christ. The Tares plant will then begin growing alongside the Wheat plant within the individual. But because the individual remains carnally minded and spiritually blind, the Tares plant will be able to grow to maturity without any further watering. This will result in the individual being governed by the Tares. The person will then accept the false teachings of Satan which will cause

them to fall from grace and become a worsened child of the Devil/Man of Sin. The individual is no longer a babe in Christ.

After the Tares have grown to maturity and the babe in Christ has become apostate, Christ will come to the individual a second time and water the Wheat plant with the Latter Rain of the Spirit. The Latter Rain is the baptism of the Holy Spirit and is what Paul received after being in Damascus for three days.

Though the Early and Latter Rains of the Spirit are not mentioned in the parable, it is proper to include them for a better understanding of the parable. "Here a little and there a little" from Isa 28:9-12 applies here, as does the verse below:

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord (day of the Wheat harvest). Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth (Wheat), and hath long patience for it, until he receives the EARLY and LATTER RAIN. 8 Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

With the Latter Rain, the individual's spiritual blindness will be healed. They will then see the Abomination of Desolation that previously occurred within themselves when the spirit of anti-Christ entered them.

This verse applies:

Mat 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand. 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

This is also when the Man of Sin is revealed to the person and they find that they are the Man of Sin:

2Thes 2:8 And then shall that Wicked (Man of Sin) be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

The verse below also applies:

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? (day of salvation/conversion) I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and Rain (Latter Rain); that ye may perceive and see (spiritual blindness healed) that your wickedness is great (have become apostate/a man of sin), which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

With the Latter Rain, the Wheat plant will grow to maturity and produce its Wheat. The Wheat is now ready for the harvest.

At the time of the harvest, the Tares will be gathered into bundles to be burned.

This is the same spiritual event described below:

Mat 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field (one person); the one shall be taken (Tares/Man of Sin), and the other left (Wheat/child of God). 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill (one person); the one shall be taken (the Great Harlot/ carnal & religious spiritual nature), and the other left (new divine spiritual nature).

After the Tares are removed and fully destroyed, the Wheat will be harvested and gathered into the Barn. The individual has now been converted into a child of God and is dwelling in the Kingdom of Heaven.

This event is described below:

Mat 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days (time of being a man of sin) shall the sun (Satan) be darkened, and the moon (Old Covenant/Bondwoman) shall not give her light, and the stars (unclean spirits) shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man (Sun of Righteousness) in heaven: and then shall all the tribes (false beliefs) of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven (His witnesses) with power and great glory (second coming of Christ). 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His Elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other (same as gathering the Wheat into the Barn).

Please remember that all the events of the Wheat and the Tares parable are spiritual events and they happen within an individual person. They do not happen out in the world where they can be seen with human eyes.

Christ uses many different parables (includes analogies, prophecies & types) to teach the pathway that leads to a person's conversion into a child of God. The Wheat and the Tares parable is one of them.