

Eight Parables of the Kingdom—Part 3

"The Parable of the Tares"

Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-43

I. The Work of J_____ (vs. 24, 36-38)

- a. **Practical Truth** = a man who sows good seed in his field, expects it to produce good crops
- b. **them** = the crowds
- c. **The kingdom of heaven** = the Church Age
- d. **may be compared to** = a parable
- e. the sower = **the Son of Man** (cf. Ezek. 2:1, 3; 3:1, 3, 4, 10, 17; 4:16; 8:5, 6, 8, 12; 11:2, 15; 23:36; 37:3, 11; 40:4; 43:7, 18; 44:5; 47:6; Dan., 7:13; 8:13; Matt. 8:20; 9:6; 10:23; 11:19; 12:8, 32, 40; 13:37, 41; 16:13, 27, 28; 17:9, 12, 22; 19:28; 20:18, 28; 24:27, 30, 37, 39; 24:44; 25:31; 26:2, 24, 45, 64; Mark 2:10, 28; 8:31, 38; 9:9, 12, 31; 10:33, 45; 13:26; 14:21, 41, 62; Luke 5:24; 6:5, 22; 7:34; 9:22, 26, 44, 56, 58; 11:30; 12:8, 10, 40; 17:22, 24, 26, 30; 18:8, 31; 19:10; 21:36; 22:22, 48, 69; 24:7; John 1:51; 3:13-14; 5:27; 6:27, 53, 62; 8:28; 9:35; 12:23, 34, 31; Acts 7:56; Heb. 2:6; Rev. 1:13; 14:14)
- f. **the field is the world** (not the church)
- g. **the seed** = **the sons of the kingdom...wheat**
- h. **Spiritual Truth** = **the Son of Man** came into **the world** to seek and to save the lost! (cf. Luke 19:10)

II. The Work of the D_____ (vs. 25-26, 38-39)

- a. **while his men were sleeping** = Wherever Jesus is at Work, Satan is at work too! (cf. Matthew 8:23-27; Luke 8:22-25)
- b. **tares = zizanion (ζιζάνιον)** = "darnel", "a particularly undesirable weed resembling wheat and possessing a seed which is poisonous"

- c. **Practical Truth** = even if you do everything right, an enemy can still ruin your work!
- d. **the sons of the evil one** = false converts (cf. Isa. 29:13; Matt. 7:21-23; John 8:44; Eph. 2:2-3; Col. 2:16-23; 1 John 3:10; 5:19)
- e. **Spiritual Truth** = many of the people who claim to be **sons of the kingdom**, are actually sons and daughters of Satan!
- f. **Spiritual Truth** = Satan is at Work & he is Powerful! (But he is NOT all-powerful) (cf. John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Rom. 10:1-3; 2 Cor. 4:4; 11:14-15; Gal. 1:6-9; Eph. 2:2-3; 6:12; 1 John 2:19)

III. The Work of the H_____ (vs. 27-30, 39-43)

- a. Main Theme: God is the sovereign landowner, and as such He will work everything out at the **Harvest**, when the bad seed of the **tares** will be burned and the good seed of the **wheat** will be gathered into His **barn**!
- b. **Practical Truth** = leave the harvesting to the professionals!
- c. **Spiritual Truth** = we are NOT supposed to eradicate what WE think are false converts in the world! (cf. Luke 9:54-55a)
 - i. **We are NOT Reapers...We are Sowers!** (cf. Matt. 28:19-20)
- d. **the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth** = Eternal Hell
- e. **the harvest is the end of the age & the reapers are angels** (cf. Jer. 51:33; Hos. 6:11; Matt. 24:40-41; cf. Isa. 32:13-15; Jer. 31:27-28; Hos. 2:21-23; 6:11; Matt. 16:27; 8:12; 13:42, 50; 22:13; 24:51; 25:30, 41; Mark 9:44; Luke 13:28; 2 Thes. 1:7-10; Rev. 14:14-16; 19:15, 20; 20:10, 14)
- f. **Spiritual Truth** = judgment is coming for all those who will not repent and accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

- g. **Spiritual Truth** = at *the end of the age* Believers will enter into a glorious eternity with Jesus Christ as their King!