

The Parable of Tares among Wheat

**Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
(NASB)**

Why Parables?

- Matthew 12:22-32 - Christ healed a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute
- Pharisees blasphemed the Holy Spirit by saying that Christ casts out demons by Beelzebul the ruler of demons.
- Rejecting the testimony of the Holy Spirit concerning Christ is unpardonable.
- Christ decides to speak in parables.

Why Parables?

- John 3:17 tells us that Christ did not come to condemn the world
- Plain language would have brought about more condemnation to the Jewish leaders in His day.
- He spoke to them in parables because while hearing they neither heard nor understood (Matthew 13:13)
- Parable will not conceal truth to a willing heart (Matthew 13:11).

Why Parables?

Matthew 13:11-13 (NIV)

¹⁰ The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

¹¹ He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

¹² Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.

¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables:

Tares among Wheat – Matthew 13:24-30

- ²⁴ Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.
- ²⁵ But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and left.
- ²⁶ And when the wheat sprouted and produced grain, then the weeds also became evident.
- ²⁷ And the slaves of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’
- ²⁸ And he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this!’ The slaves *said to him, ‘Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?’
- ²⁹ But he *said, ‘No; while you are gathering up the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them.
- ³⁰ Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and at the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the weeds and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn.”””

The Tares Explained – Matthew 13:36-43

³⁶ Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”

³⁷ And He said, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man,

³⁸ and the field is the world; and *as for* the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the weeds are the sons of the evil *one*;

³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.

⁴⁰ So just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.

⁴¹ The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁴³ Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH LIKE THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. The one who has ears, let him hear.

The Field - Matthew 13:24

- ²⁴ Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.”
- The field is the world not Israel
- The Gentiles are not left out
- Psalm 24:1-2 NASB “¹ The earth is the LORD’s, and all it contains, The world, and those who live in it. ² For He has founded it upon the seas And established it upon the rivers.”

Wheat and Tares - Matthew 13:25

- ²⁵ But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and left.
- Our response towards God's grace is what defines us as wheat or tares. God released wheat seeds in the Garden of Eden
- Genesis 1:26-27
- ²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make mankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the livestock and over all the earth, and over every crawling thing that crawls on the earth."
- ²⁷ So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- In this state the Devil could not access man because man lived in the "ruach" or breath or spirit.

Wheat and Tares - Matthew 13:25

- ²⁵ But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and left.
- In Genesis 2:7 man was formed from the dust of the earth, received the breath of God, and became a living soul; and, in verse 21-22 woman was formed from man's rib.
- In Genesis 1:28 man was given instructions on how to watch over the earth, but man went to sleep by considering contrary information
- Man allowed the Devil to sow tares in the God's field (Genesis 3:1-6).
- Wheat and tares have grown alongside since the days of Adam and will continue in this state until the day of God's judgement.

Growing alongside - Matthew 13:26

- ²⁶ And when the wheat sprouted and produced grain, then the weeds also became evident.
- The enemy is prominent in God's field, and he has come to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10).
- ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came so that they would have life, and have *it* abundantly.
- Scary reality - Satan has a shoot of iniquity or a son of darkness or a tare for every wheat or son of light or shoot of grace sown by the Son of Man.
- We are thus called to a life of spiritual alertness and consciousness of the devil's schemes (Ephesians 6:11).
- ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

Man tries to blame God – Matthew 13:27

- ²⁷ And the slaves of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’
- Genesis 3:12-13 NASB
- ¹² The man said, “The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me some of *the fruit of* the tree, and I ate.”
- ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this *that* you have done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

An Enemy has done this – Matthew 13:28

- **28** And he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this!’ The slaves *said to him, ‘Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?’

- **Genesis 3:14-15**

- **14** Then the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all the livestock, And more than any animal of the field; On your belly you shall go, And dust you shall eat All the days of your life;

- **15** And I will make enemies Of you and the woman, And of your offspring and her Descendant; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise Him on the heel.”

- **Do not be hasty in passing judgement**

Be Patient – Matthew 13:29

- ²⁹ But he *said, ‘No; while you are gathering up the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them.
- God is patient (slow to anger) to give everyone a chance to repent because He doesn’t want anyone to be lost.
- He desires that the lives of the wheat will purposefully cause the tares to change course and become wheat.
- True love only finds expression where there’s freedom to love or not to love
- Our love for God speaks to the fact that although evil is intertwined with good, we have chosen good over evil.

Be Patient – Matthew 13:29

- ²⁹ But he *said, ‘No; while you are gathering up the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them.’
- The company of religious friends that you keep are they Christians (Matthew 7:21-23)?
- ²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.”
- ²² Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’
- ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; LEAVE ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’

Be Patient until God's day of Judgement – Matthew 13:30

- ³⁰ Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and at the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the weeds and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn.”””
- The Lord has not failed you in the past and He will not fail you with His timing on this.
- Wait for His judgement on the lawless and unrighteous.
- God's filter of absolutes - Receive Christ and you are saved or reject Him and you are condemned already.

The Tares Explained – Matthew 13:36-43

³⁶ Then He left the crowds and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.”

³⁷ And He said, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man,

³⁸ and the field is the world; and *as for* the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the weeds are the sons of the evil *one*;

³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.

⁴⁰ So just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.

⁴¹ The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁴³ Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH LIKE THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. The one who has ears, let him hear.

Conclusion

- There are two distinct kingdom influences here on earth
- Satan plants the tares because he can infiltrate our innermost circles due to his mastery of deception (2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 12:9)
- God has not equipped us with the toolset to do the things that He has reserved for Himself so we must learn to adapt, with vigilant toleration, our watch over His field of wheat and tares.
- Our gentle oversight does not stop us from separating members from others when they have repeatedly displayed motives that are inconsistent with our Christian values.

- Call or email using the information below to schedule an appointment to speak with any of the leaders.



- Website: www.toms-lifestyle.org
- YouTube Page: The Outgivers Ministries (TOMS)
- Blog: www.outgivers.blogspot.com
- Facebook page: www.facebook.com/aboundinchrist
- Email: info@toms-lifestyle.org
- Address: P.O. Box 86362 Gaithersburg, MD 20886
- Phone #: 1.844.762.3332
- 1.571.278.7680
- 1.240.328.2211