

Great Stories of the Bible - 06/05/22

The Parable of the Tares

TEXT- Matthew 13:24-30 *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.*

INTRO –

- What is the Kingdom of Heaven?

The kingdom of heaven is equivalent to “Christendom.” It is made up of all who profess Christianity.

- When is it?

The kingdom begins with the sowing of the Word in Christ’s day and continues to the end of this age.

Every believer is to sow the seed. We are placed in this world to be a witness. No matter what age you are, your focus should be on the souls of men and women boys and girls.

- Some of the seed will fall to the wayside and fowls will devour it. (Satan)
- Some will fall on stony ground (Flesh)
- Some will be choked by the thorns and weeds. (World)
- Some will fall on good ground -Bring forth fruit 100, 60, 30

Satan has his false seed. Unbelieving religious imitators.

While men slept

Satan sows false doctrine in darkness. In the very place where the truth is preached, and while the hearts of people are open to receive it, by false but plausible teachers he takes care to inculcate false sentiments. Often it is one of his arts, in a revival of religion, to spread secretly dangerous notions of piety. Multitudes are persuaded that they are Christians who are deceived.

I. The sowing of the Field

A. Sowing the good seed – The first problem with sowing has to do with the soil.

- True Christianity

B. The bad seed

- Counterfeit Christianity – The second problem has to do with the enemy – Satan disrupting the harvest.

What is a tare? Counterfeit wheat. It looks like the real thing but when the fruit arrives its fruit is rotten.

II. The Discovery of The Tares – The first pair is the wheat and the tares **While men slept – In the cover of darkness**

John 3:19 *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

- Our battle is against darkness

Ephesians 6:12 *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

- Our hope is to turn men to the light

Acts 26:18 *To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.*

III. The Disregarding of the Tares – The second pair is the mustard seed and the leaven

- Let them grow together

The parable of the mustard seed - Unusual growth occurs. The seed becomes very large. The birds come and nest in it. False teachers.

The parable of the leaven - They will give the same appearance as the wheat. But the leaven is a destructive force which contaminates the entire loaf. False doctrine.

- They are distinctively not the same thing

IV. The Harvest – The third pair is the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price.

- The hid treasure is Israel
- The pearl of great price is the church
- The angels will conduct the harvest
- The tares are burned in the fire. The lost religious people will be cast into hell. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth
- The righteous will shine forth as the sun. All because of the grace of God.

The final parable is the dragnet. This is how the age ends. There shall be gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 24:36-44 *But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. 37 But as the days of Noe 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; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. 43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.*

CONCL – The explanation of the Tares.

Matthew 13:36-43 *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. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*