



Parables of Jesus—The Kingdom

The Work of the Enemy

Imitation Believers

The meaning of this parable is that as the Son of Man introduces the kingdom of heaven into the world, the power of evil will do everything possible to resist the king and the kingdom.

In the end however, the king and kingdom will succeed.

A. The Parable Mat 13:24-30

1. This parable is similar to the sower who sowed seeds on various types of soils. *Mat 13:3-9; 18-23*
2. Here the emphasis is not on what happens to the good seed but rather on what happens to the bad seed—the weeds.
3. Tares are a variety of darnel weed that closely resembles wheat and is almost impossible to distinguish from it until the wheat ripens and bears grain.

B. The Explanation of the Parable Mat 13:36-39

:37 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. **:38** The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. **:39** The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.

1. **The Sower: Son of Man...**His Messianic title *Luk 22:69* and *Dan 7:13* The last Adam's work; humility and humanity. He is sowing in His OWN field which is the world. *1 Cor 15:45-49*
2. **The Field: The world...**includes but is not limited to the Church. This is a picture of the church in the world, **NOT** of the world in the church.
3. **The Good Seeds: Sons of the kingdom...**the Lord plants His people in the world as His witnesses, to grow and become fruitful plants of righteousness.
4. **The Tares: Sons of the wicked one...**they are counterfeit, an imitation masquerading as children of light. *1 Pet 5:8; 2 Cor 2:11*.
5. **The Enemy: The Devil...**is a squatter—living and working on land he does not own to his own profit.
6. **The Harvest: The end of the age...**God's judgment.
7. **The Reapers: The angels...**execute God's judgment.

C. The Meaning of the Parable Matt 13:40-43

1. **Wheat and tares grow together: Why?**
In nature the roots of the grain and the darnel are so intertwined that it is virtually impossible to pull up one without the other. **The church age is for evangelism not judgment.**
2. **The end of the age:** The end of the kingdom age in its 'interim' or 'present' form will be when Jesus Christ returns in power and glory to reign as King.

Matthew 13:24-30

Parable of the Wheat and Tares

:24 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who 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 grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared.

:27 So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?'

:28 He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?'

:29 But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.

:30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn." ' ' "

:40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, **so it will be at the end of this age.**

:41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

:42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

:43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. **He who has ears to hear, let him hear!**

The church is called to preach and teach against sin and all unrighteousness, but, in doing that, its purpose is not to judge but to win souls, not to punish but to convert sons of the evil one into sons of the kingdom.