

Kingdom Parables - The Parable of the Weeds

Mat 13:24-30 ESV He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to **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 went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, **then the weeds appeared also**. 27 And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, **'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?'** 28 He said to them, **'An enemy has done this.'** So the servants said to him, **'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'** 29 But he said, **'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.** 30 **Let both grow together** until the harvest, and at harvest time **I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first** and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." Mat 13:36-43 ESV Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us **the parable of the weeds** of the field." 37 He answered, "The one who sows the **good seed** is the **Son of Man**. 38 The **field is the world**, and the **good seed is the sons of the kingdom**. The **weeds are the sons of the evil one**, 39 and the **enemy who sowed them is the devil**. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, 42 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

[Interpreting the characters and elements](#) (see slides) (questions begin with vs 27)

- **Explain to us the parable of the WEEDS** - most of the story *except the WEEDS made sense*
- **How then does it have weeds?** - how or why does evil exist if God is so good / loving / powerful
- **An enemy has done this** - We have an enemy - totally opposed to everything that is from the LORD
- **Do you want us to go and gather them?** - we sometimes feel we must root evil out of the world
 - You might root up the wheat also - Weeds → wheat, darkness → light, enemies → friends

LET them both grow together! - Jesus has no concern, the wheat continues to thrive even in the midst of evil!

- **LET** - Greek- to send off, to let go, **"to let be"**, **"to release from an obligation"** (as in to forgive) - it is the word Jesus spoke from the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Lk. 23:34).
- Think of Jesus and the woman caught in adultery, or Zacchaeus the thief, or Paul the murderer
- The attitude of the Pharisee - has no room for the tax collector, or the adulteress & people like this

A patient waiting (Ecc 8:11 when judgment is not executed speedily men's hearts are fully set to do evil)

- 2Pe 3:9 ESV The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.
- One reason there is sin and suffering in the earth is because God so loved the world **and He is waiting...not wanting any to perish...**and in the waiting wickedness will increase, and people will be murdered, and our loved ones will die, and the sons of the evil one will do all they can to thwart the kingdom...
- The weeds are left because he is waiting, **If his workers rid the world of evil would you be here?**
- Evil continues to happen because of His love and patience - He is waiting - he did not weed me out

There is eternal Judgment

In the end, at the close of the age, the weeds will be gathered and burned, and the wheat will be gathered into his barn...this is an eternal judgment...

The only real questions left are: (1) "Are you Wheat or Weed? (2) "How will you deal with weeds?"