

## **Matthew 13:24- 35 – Parable of the Weeds)**

- Opening Comments
- Opening Prayer
- Life is binary, when it comes to which direction that we take in our lives,
- In other words, there are two different paths we can choose from.
- And another fact in life is that we have a choice in the manner.
- We can go to the North or to the South, to the East or the West.
- We can either say yes or no, and even when we say maybe,
- It is still ultimately going to come down to either a yes or a no.
- And that's because we are made in the image of God,
- And as a result, we all have free will.
- As Matthew 7:13 tells us, we can either enter through the narrow gate
- And travel on the narrow path that leads to life,
- Or we can choose to go through the wide gate,
- Where the path is broad, and that leads to destruction.
- While there is still breath in our bodies and we are on this side of forever,
- We must be cognizant of the fact, that when it comes to eternal life,
- There is no gray area, there is no purgatory, and there is no in between.
- There is either Heaven or Hell.
- And all of us at some point in our lives, need to make a decision,
- As to which path that we choose to take.
- And that decision makes all the difference in the world.
- And everyone one of us, despite our position in this life,
- Have an equal opportunity, when it comes to our eternal destination.
- All of us are able to have that enduring hope for an eternal future with God,
- That He promises to all of us who believe.
- And all of us, saved or unsaved, will make a choice,
- That if we have begun to travel on this way of life,
- That we would remain true and faithful,
- Because we can easily get lost along the way, and fade away.
- It's easy to become lost upon the way if we neglect to stay on the path.

- But again, everyone has in our own hands in the assurance of salvation.
- It's a choice to receive a free gift that God has offered to all of us.
- And, just as importantly, to continue in that life
- In which we are a new creation.
- It's a choice that we make to follow Christ,
- And let nothing come between us.
- Today, we are going to take a look at Chapter 13.
- And what we have is a series of parables.
- Let's take a look at The Parable of the Weeds, or Tares (KJV)

**<sup>24</sup> Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.**

**<sup>27</sup> "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup> "An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' <sup>29</sup> "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"**

- Jesus, used parables, which are stories that teach spiritual truths
- One of the reasons why He spoke in parables is that they are timeless.
- They make the same sense today that they did 2000 years ago.
- And they reveal the same truths and the same lessons as well.
- And it makes us wonder, why did God send Jesus to this earth
- At particular time in our History, and the foolishness of men
- Preaching the gospel.
- It is normal men women sharing these biblical truths with their families,
- With others, and with the rest of the world by mouth.
- My father, when I was young, often told me stories about his experiences
- In life, that in turn, taught me great life lessons that I needed to hear.

- And Jesus does this with great effectiveness.
- And many of us might wonder, with such a wonderful God,
- Why is there so much evil, that God needs to separate the weeds.
- Why are there such divisions among the people?
- And this parable explains that.
- God created the earth for good, an Eden, in which there was no violence.
- Adam and Eve were innocent. there was no lust or disobedience,
- And for a time they walked and talked with God.
- It was when Satan came as a serpent marked the fall of man.
- And this is what Jesus is saying here.
- God created what was good, but evil came and took away from the good.
- After the creation of the world, where everything was very good,
- There was a rebellion in heaven.
- Lucifer wanted to be in charge, he wanted to be God.
- And he was able to convince 1/3 of the angels to join him in a rebellion,
- And then there was a separation of the forces of good and evil. .
- God created only good things, and He placed His creation here,
- But because we were created in the image of God,
- We are different from the animals of the earth.
- In the image we are created in, there is a choice,
- And every one of us has a choice in our life between good and evil.
- And we make these choices every day, minute by minute.
- Life was much simpler then it is now without a ton of distractions.
- All they had to do was to stay away from that tree and not eat the fruit.
- That was it, that's all there was.
- But with the combination of Satan's influence,
- And the weakness of the human flesh, evil came into the world,
- And Satan sowed the wheat in the lives of Adam and Eve.
- It was a choice that they made,
- And scripture tells us that God is too pure to look upon evil.
- But God did not destroy them.

- In the parable, the workers said to the master of the field,
- **Do you want us to go and pull them up? (Those being the weeds)**
- But the master wisely didn't want to lose any of the good crops.
- He wanted to make sure that everyone who was able to bring good fruit
- In their lives, were not hurt, so they were not torn up.
- Instead, he said, <sup>30</sup> **Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn."**
- The beauty of the parables is that we can apply these type of
- Situations that occurs in so many parts of our lives.
- But the fact of life is that God sowed the intention of good in all of us.
- But with the times and turns of our lives,
- Many of us encounter so many difficulties or troubles.
- We might face opposition, and many times we just make stupid mistakes.
- And then we are forced to live with the consequences of our mistakes.
- And sometimes we get stuck in situations,
- That are not entirely of our own making. (Uriah)
- David mentioned in the OT that his troubles came about him like bees
- **Psalms 118:12 - They surrounded me like bees; they were extinguished as a fire of thorns; In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.**
- If you come upon a bees nest, they come at you from all directions,
- And it's almost impossible to avoid getting stung.
- And David said that his life was often like that.
- And for David, as we know, some of his problems were of his own making.
- And I'm sure we are in the same boat as well.
- But even though God created us with a desire only for the good,
- But there are weeds amongst the wheat in our hearts,
- There are weeds in our minds, in all the life circumstances that we face.
- There is evil in this world.
- I think we all might think of Satan as a singular entity,
- But again, if we examine various prophetic scripture
- We see that Lucifer's tail gathered a 1/3 of the stars of heaven with him.

- There are very powerful forces of evil all around and about us
- In this world, trying to destroy the work of God.
- Whether it's in our nation, our homes, our churches,
- Or in our individual lives.
- Just look at the ton of phone calls we get every day.
- We are faced with all kinds of scams, attacked by dishonest people,
- And the bees continue to swarm around us.
- But we need to remain in obedience and submission to God
- And to maintain a strong desire to do what is good and right.
- And sometimes we wonder, why does God allow this to happen?
- And our children or others will ask us:
- Why is there poverty? - Why is there war?
- Why are there so many shootings on our streets? - Why are people so evil?
- We can't answer it, but this parable can give us a view as to why.
- Because God created it all for beauty and good,
- God only sowed good seed upon the earth.
- And the forces of evil, Satan and a third of the angels convinced by
- Lucifer's deception to join in the rebellion for the forces of evil.
- And a third still live today with the anger and bitterness in their hearts,
- These forces of evil that want to destroy what is good.
- And sometime that manifests itself individually, and sometimes collectively.
- And we have to be patient, because the goodness of God will come in time.
- And these workers in the field had to wait,
- They had to live among evil, before the weeds were separated
- From the wheat, and then destroyed.
- Even though the good are among the evil,
- When it's time to pick out the good wheat, it survives and bears good fruit.
- The wheat might not be perfect, the weeds might have done some damage,
- But they survived and grew.
- And that's what we have to do in the hand of God
- We hold on even when nourishment is sparse.

- And the weeds can't take the frost, and they die.
- God will take us, who have a desire to do what is good and right,
- And take away those who have done us harm.
- It takes faith to believe that, and we need to have faith.
- The field is our heart, and the good seed has been cast,
- And we have to grow and prosper in a fallen world.
- But God is patient, God is powerful, and God is on the throne.
- Let's enter the narrow gate, and stay on the narrow path.
- The path that leads to eternal life.
- Let us not participate with the forces of evil, but with the forces of good.