

HE TOLD STORIES

Matt 13:24-30



'SOWING BAD SEED'

THIS SORT OF THING DID HAPPEN!

- ⦿ This particular crime is mentioned and forbidden in Roman Law
- ⦿ Why would someone do such a thing?
- ⦿ The victim would not reap what they sowed. They would reap what their enemy had sowed.
- ⦿ What would the consequences be?

**24 Jesus presented another parable to 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 tares among the wheat, and went away.**

**26 "But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then
the tares became evident also.**

**27 "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 tares?'**

**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; for while you are gathering up the
tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.**

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

GOOD SEED AND BAD SEED GROWING TOGETHER



TARES – ‘*Bearded Darnell*’

- ⦿ Common weed in the time of Jesus and a serious problem
- ⦿ The fruit of the Tare is mildly poisonous, and bitter
- ⦿ In its developing stages is impossible to see the difference between wheat and tares
- ⦿ Farmers do not separate the Tares because its root system is strong and intertwines with the wheat – to save the wheat from being uprooted and destroyed they wait until harvest.

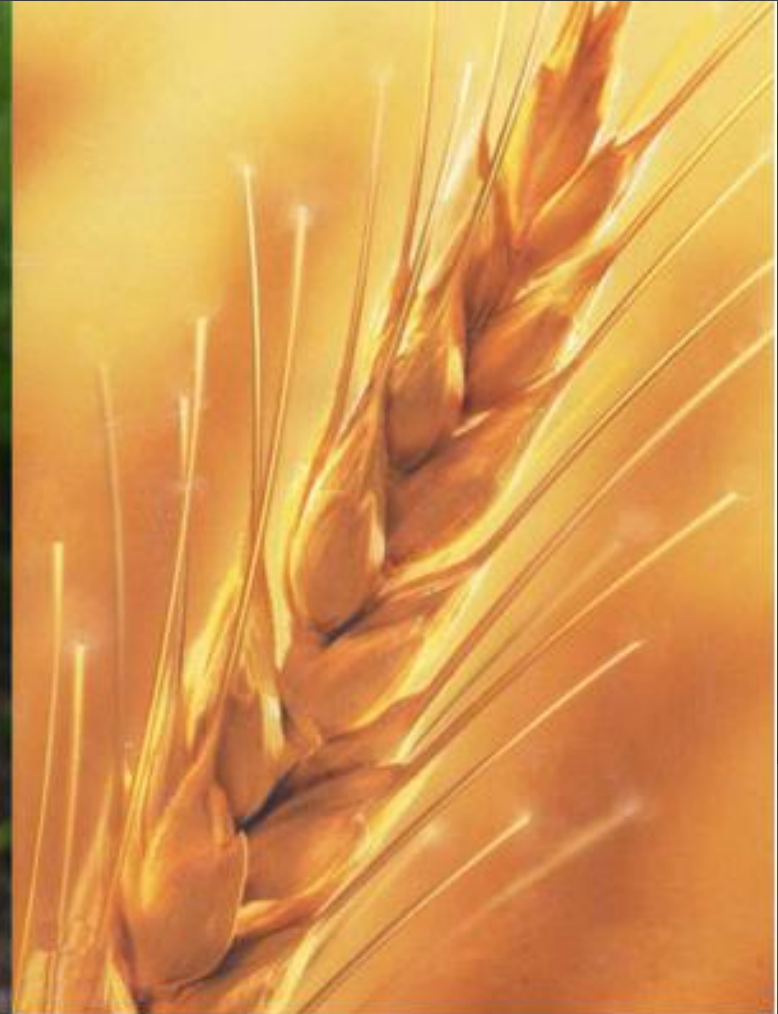
‘YOU WILL KNOW THEM BY THEIR FRUITS’

Matt 7:16-20

At fruit time even a child can tell the difference



Tares - Darnell



Wheat

THE TWO SOWERS
TWO SEEDS
TWO KINGDOMS
ON THE SAME FIELD

The Son of Man sows seed
that is life giving to the world,

The devil sows seed that
brings bitterness and
sickness to the world

THIS IS A PARABLE
ABOUT A BATTLE
OF KINGDOMS

What is the strategy of the Devil, the Evil one?

- ⦿ In the first parable...?
- ⦿ In this parable....?
- ⦿ If the Devil can't stop the life giving seed of God's Word taking root, he will plant counterfeit seed that deceptively promises life but delivers bitterness, sickness and death.
- ⦿ If the Devil cant stop the seed of God's word bearing fruit he **distracts** the workers from trusting in the Lord by overwhelming them with a loathing for evil that pulls them away from the way of the Kingdom and from each other .

'Do you want us, then, to go and pull out the weeds?'

- ⦿ **This is a good question..lets sit with this for a moment**
- ⦿ 'The effects which follow too constant a concentration upon evil are always disastrous ...we thus create occasions for evil to manifest itself'
- ⦿ 'Those fanatics who don't want to tolerate any weeds end up with no wheat either' (Luther).
- ⦿ **I learnt this the hard way: we didn't ask we just started pulling out what we thought were weeds and ended up destroying ourselves**

Tares and wheat

- ⦿ What about Jesus' own disciples...?

What is the strategy of Jesus the Son of Man in this clash of kingdoms?

- ⦿ His strategy is to teach and prepare his disciples for what lies ahead both now and in eternity
- ⦿ His strategy is to protect the sons and daughters of the kingdom from the deceiving and disheartening wiles of the devil.
- ⦿ His strategy is to protect the sons and daughters of the kingdom from violence from each other
- ⦿ His strategy is to lead the Sons of the kingdom to maturity – they are the Life giving wheat for the world (Bread of life).

What is the strategy of Jesus the Son of Man?



Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
The Patient Farmer

What is the strategy of Jesus the Son of Man?

- His strategy is to trust in and obey His Father's plan. As the promised Messiah – the one who brings salvation and healing to a wounded creation- Jesus does not need to react. The Son of Man is Lord of heaven and earth. His strategy is to rest in the Word of God.
- **Through the WAY of the Kingdom, the victory of the cross of Christ, the kingdom of the world shall become the Kingdom of the Christ! (Rev 11:15)**

LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

- ⦿ "So just as the tares 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 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 AS THE SUN** in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.