

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

The Kingdom of Heaven
Matthew 13:24-30 - Parable of the Weeds
March 3, 2023

Begin by reading the parable of the Sower, Matthew chapter 13:24-30 What do you believe is the overall purpose of this teaching?

Read: Matthew 13:24

Who is the “man” who sowed good seed? What is the good seed?

Read: Matthew 13:25

Who is the “enemy” who sowed weeds? What do the weeds represent?

Read: Matthew 13:26-28

Is Satan real to you? How does this passage describe the work of Satan? Why is it important to acknowledge a real evil enemy like Satan rather than vilifying the people around us? How does this change our perspective on people who have hurt us or are difficult to deal with?

Read: Matthew 13:29

Jesus makes it clear that the wheat and the weeds coexist for the time being. What does pull up the weeds mean? Why is it important that we don't do it ourselves and wait until the appointed time? How can we discern evil and hold people accountable for their actions without judging them in an unhealthy way?

Recall a time in your past when you were more influenced by Satan than you were by Jesus. How does the knowledge of our own sinfulness help us to see the influence of Satan and other people's lives? How does this change our perspective of others in view of their current condition? Is there any hope for them? Can we know if their final condition will be different than their current condition?

Read: Matthew 13:30

This verse speaks of both judgment and grace. Does the reality of hell make you feel uncomfortable? Does this make you reluctant to share the gospel? How does God's judgment amplify or bring meaning to God's grace? Why do think the weeds are gathered and burned *first*, and *then* the wheat brought into the barn?

Read: Revelation 21:4

How can knowledge of the future help us to keep the right perspective in the present? What are some practical ways that we can presently keep the Kingdom of heaven forefront in our minds?