

Lesson 3-5 Parable - wheat and weeds (Part 1)

1. This is one of the deepest parables; it gives us insight, from God's point of view, concerning who we are. This parable, if misunderstood, can cause believers to be hateful and judgmental. On the other hand, this parable can set you free from guilt; give you hope; put your life in perspective; and bond you closely with your neighbor and with God.

2. Please read the parable of the wheat and the tares:

Matthew 13:24 He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field,
Matthew 13:25 but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away.
Matthew 13:26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.
Matthew 13:27 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?'
Matthew 13:28 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?'
Matthew 13:29 But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.
Matthew 13:30 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.'" (ESV)

3. This is one of the parables that Jesus explained, so let's see what He said:

Matthew 13:36 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."
Matthew 13:37 He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.
Matthew 13:38 The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,

Matthew 13:39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels.

Matthew 13:40 Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age.

Matthew 13:41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers,

Matthew 13:42 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. (ESV)

According to Jesus:

The man who sows good seed is: [The Son of Man \(Jesus\)](#)

The field is: [The world](#)

The enemy is: [The devil](#)

The good seeds are: [The sons of the kingdom](#)

The bad seeds are: [The sons of the evil one](#)

The reapers are: [His angels](#)

The harvest is: [The end of the age](#)

4. This parable has much in it and will be taught in two parts. In this lesson we will study the "good" and "bad" seed, and in the next lesson we will study the conflict of good and evil.

5. The parable talks about "good seed" and "bad seed." Are you a "good seed" or a "bad seed?"

6. Does the parable infer that some seeds are partially "good" and partially "bad." That is to say partially "wheat" or partially "weeds?"

7. Do you know anyone who is 100 percent "good seed" or 100 percent "bad seed?"

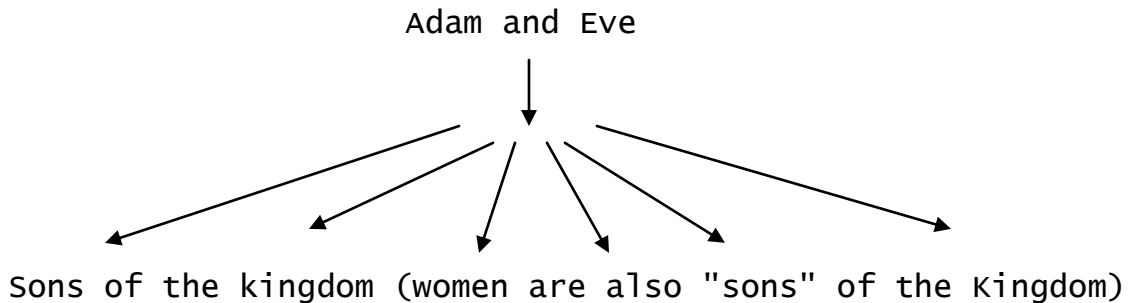
8. Jesus says that the "good seeds" are the "sons of the kingdom." Let's look at some scriptures to get a deeper understanding of this:

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
Genesis 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth ... (ESV)

Genesis 1:31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. .. (ESV)

Please summarize the above scriptures in your own words.

9. Based on the above scriptures, we propose the following as God's original plan of planting "good seed:"



Note: God intended that "sons of the kingdom" live with Him forever. In the beginning all the seeds for the "sons of the kingdom" existed in Adam and Eve, and they were "good."

10. Returning to the parable:

Matthew 13:27 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?'

Matthew 13:28 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?'

Matthew 13:29 But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.'

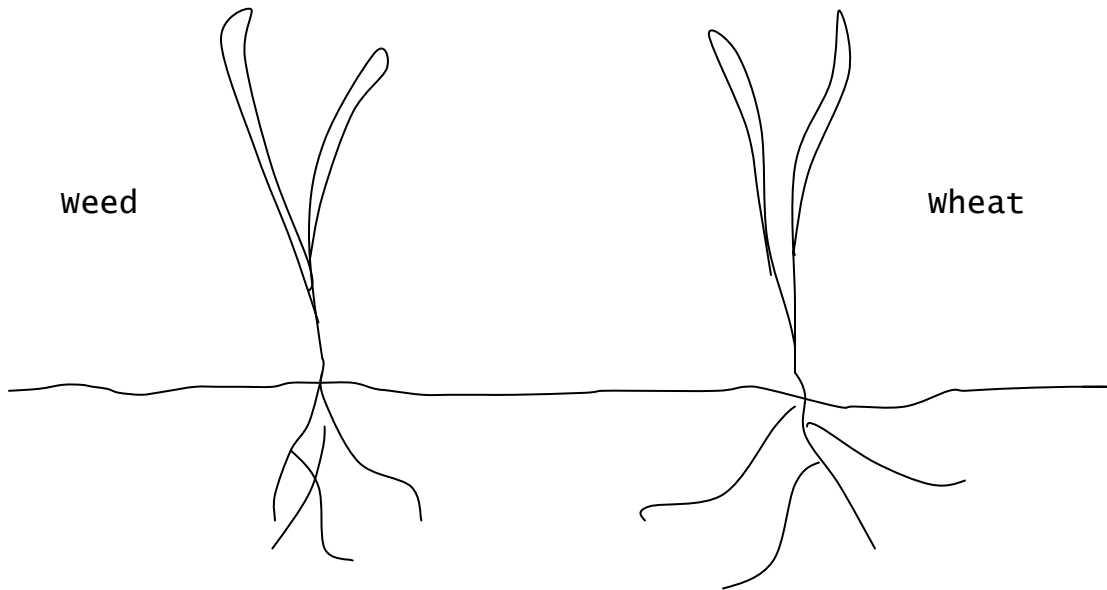
Matthew 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest,

In your opinion, why did the enemy sow the bad seed, the weed seeds?

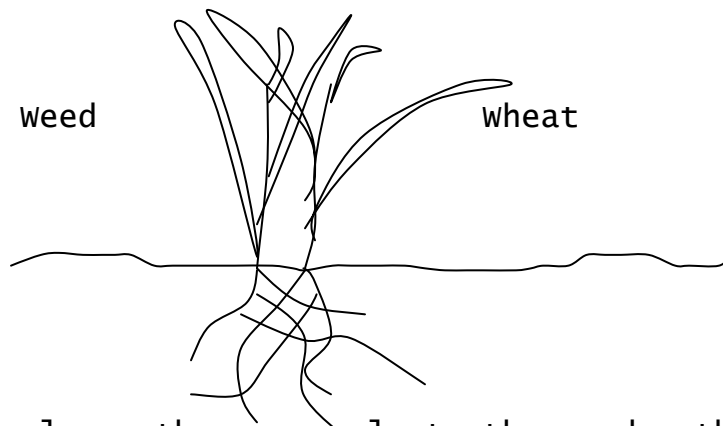
11. If the enemy hated the farmer, how much damage would he want to do to the man's crop?

12. If the weeds were not close to the wheat would the weeds pose a problem for the wheat?

13. Could this weed inflict damage to the wheat? If you pulled up the weed, would the wheat be damaged?



14. Could this weed hurt this wheat plant? Could the wheat be uprooted if you pulled out the weed?



15. So, the closer the enemy plants the weeds, the more destruction is done. Consider the possibility that the "bad seed" is in the same body as the "good seed."

Please read the following:

Romans 8:5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.

Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God:
.....

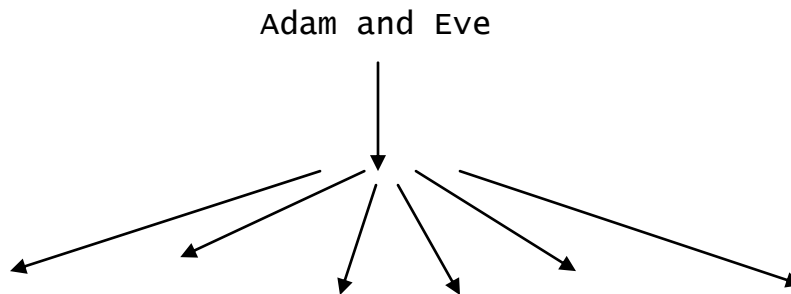
16. When Adam and Eve were alone with the serpent, the serpent planted his seeds in Adam and Eve. By eating the forbidden fruit they died, spiritually, that day. Please read the following:

Genesis 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

Romans 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

17. Based on these scriptures, consider the following:



Human beings with a sin nature, this sin nature is strong and separates us from God. It must be overcome with the spirit of God.

18. How can we overcome the sin nature? Are we strong enough, using our own means and strength? Have you tried? See: [Lesson 1-6 "sin"](#)

19. In your opinion, is it possible to return to the "good" status? That is to say, back to what God had originally intended.

Romans 5:17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. (ESV)

20. Please read the following scriptures:

John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

1 John 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Ephesians 1:5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

Romans 5:19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

21. Please try to summarize these scriptures in one sentence.

22. Consider the following model for you:

Born with two seeds one from God and one from the enemy -->

Battle for the soul ----->

Savior provided----->

Your free will decides ----->

If you choose God, you are Born of the Spirit -->

Son of the Kingdom (Returning to God's original
plan)

Applications for these principles:

23. When you look at a friend, do you see the wheat or the weed?

24. When you look at an enemy, do you see the wheat or the weed?

25. In the Bible, Jesus says we should love our neighbors and our enemies. Does this mean we should love the wheat and the weed?

26. We all struggle with the weeds, in others and ourselves. Can you see how this binds us together and why we should pray for each other and why we should love one another?

27. Conclusion: We have two seeds in us: the seed of God and the seed of the enemy. The seed of the enemy can grow into a very powerful weed that can overcome the good seed. You are not strong enough to overcome this weed. You need help. You need to have help from God's Holy Spirit. You must be born again, that is born of the Spirit.