

I. The Parable of the Tares of the Field

1. There are two types of seed in this world: good and bad ([Mt. 13:24-25](#)).
 - a. There is no gray area with God ([Mt. 12:30](#)).
2. The good seed produced wheat.
 - a. Wheat was the choice crop in Jesus' time.
 - b. It was used for baking and eating much like today.
3. The bad seed produced tares.
 - a. Tares are a weed called "darnel grass."
 - b. It looks very similar to wheat or rye except that the grains are black.
 - c. It is not until it is fully grown that it becomes distinguishable from the wheat due to its smaller black grains.
 - d. The seeds are poisonous to man and some animals and can cause sleepiness, nausea, convulsions, blindness, and even death.
4. Both were allowed to grow until harvest time and then the separation would occur ([Mt. 13:27-30](#)).
 - a. This was a common practice in ancient times.

II. The Explanation

1. Jesus Christ is the Sower of the good seed ([Mt. 13:37](#)).
 - a. Jesus called Himself the Son of man often (cf. [Mt. 16:13](#)).
2. The field is the world ([Mt. 13:38](#)).
 - a. This is not a reference to the church ([Mk. 16:15-16](#)).
 - b. The world is the churches' mission field ([1 Tim. 1:15](#)).
3. The kingdom is a reference to the church ([Col. 1:1-2](#), [12-14](#); [1 Th. 2:10-13](#)).
4. The wicked one is the devil ([Mt. 13:38-39](#)).
 - a. He works in darkness: "while men slept" ([Mt. 13:25](#)).
 - b. The devil is the adversary of mankind and in particular Christians ([1 Pt. 5:8](#)).
 - c. The devil is the prince of this world ([Jn. 12:31](#)).
 - d. The church (followers of Christ) is Satan's mission field ([Lk. 22:31](#)).
5. The harvest is the Judgment Day ([Mt. 13:39](#)).
 - a. Sometimes called the "day of the Lord" ([2 Pt. 3:10](#)).

- b. Sometimes called the “last day” ([Jn. 12:47-48](#)).
- c. There is a Great Day coming ([Mt. 25:31-46](#)).
- 6. The reapers are the angels ([Mt. 13:39](#)).
 - a. These are unbiased, unprejudiced, unrelenting gatherers.
 - b. There will be no disputing their work.
 - c. There will be no overpowering of their work by man.

III. The Application

1. We have a choice on what we want to be in this parable: tare or wheat.
 - a. The choice is made by your decision to **reject** or **obey** the gospel of God ([2 Th. 1:7-10](#)).
 - b. You must make a choice because if you choose inaction you have made your choice and it is the wrong choice at that!
2. Christians are to influence the world for good and thus we are allowed to live with the world ([1 Cor. 5:9-13](#); [Mt. 5:13-16](#)).
 - a. Christians are not **of** the world though ([Jm. 4:4](#))!
 - b. Rather, we are transformed by the word of God ([Rm. 12:2](#)).
 - c. What would this world be like *without* Christians?
3. God will be the ultimate judge of all of mankind for He alone knows the heart of every person ([1 Jn. 3:20](#)).
 - a. The church will not be exempt from God’s judgment ([Mt. 13:41](#)).
 - b. We must oppose error wherever it is and especially in the church ([Jm. 4:7](#)).
4. The punishment will be severe and the reward will be great ([Mt. 13:42-43](#)).
 - a. Hell is never ending agony ([Mt. 25:41](#); [Rev. 20:14-15](#), [21:8](#)).
 - b. Heaven is never ending bliss ([Rev. 21:3-4](#), [7](#)).
 - c. The choice is clear.