



- Jesus' teaching occurred when the coming of God's Kingdom was imminent — Mt. 4:17, 23; 5:1-7:21; 9:35; Mark 9:1
- In explaining why He spoke in parables, Jesus made reference to "the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven" Mt 13:11
  - Many parables start w/ "The kingdom of heaven is like" Mt 13:24,31,33,44,45,47

#### KINGDOM OF HEAVEN vs. KINGDOM OF GOD

Some try to make a distinction (e.g. Scofield Reference Bible) but a quick comparison of the gospels indicate

#### KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Matthew 4:17 (NKJV) 17 ... "Repent, for the **kingdom of** heaven is at hand."

Matthew 5:3 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> "...theirs is the **kingdom of heaven**.

Matthew 13:31 (NKJV) <sup>31</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, …"

#### KINGDOM OF GOD

Mark 1:14,15 (NKJV) <sup>15</sup> ... "the **kingdom of God** is at hand. Repent. ..."

Luke 6:20 (NKJV) <sup>20</sup> ...yours is the **kingdom of God**.

Mark 4:30–31 (NKJV) <sup>30</sup> ... "the **kingdom of God**? ... <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed which,"

# 

#### & The Church

#### FOUR PERSPECTIVES OF THE KINGDOM

**OT Prophecy** 

NT Imminence

NT Presence

**Future Glory** 

**GOD WILL:** 

Gen. 49:10

2 Sam. 7:12-16

Dan. 2:44;

7:13-14

Isa. 9:7

Ezek. 21:25-27

Zech. 9:9

AT HAND / NIGH

Angels - Luke 1:32-33

Acts 8:12; 19:8; 20:25; 28:23, 31

1 Cor. 15:24-25

(NKJV)

Then comes the

ad, when He

livers the

J.B. - Mt The parables emphasize m to God

**Apostle** the nature of the kingdom

end to during the church age and looks ad all

forward to judgment & to its ry and

Jesus - M future glory! 23; 5:1-7:21,

13:11-52; 16:

28; Mark 9:1; Etc.

Christ" (Rev. 1:9).

<sup>25</sup> For He reign till He nas put all

er, when

remies under His feet.

The parable of the Weeds and Wheat is one of several judgment parables from Matthew



The Dragnet (Mt 13:47-50)

The Unmerciful Servant (Mt 18:21-35)

The Laborers In The Vineyard (Mt 20:1-16)

The Wicked Vinedressers (Mt 21:33-46)

The Wedding Feast (Mt 22:1-14)

The Wise And Foolish Virgins (Mt 25:1-13)

The Talents (Mt 25:14-30)

Helps unveil the "mysteries of the kingdom" (11)



- Like "The Parable Of The Sower", it is one of the few in which we have Jesus' own explanation... (vss. 36-44)
- Instead of one SOWER, ONE SEED & Four SOILS, the parable of the wheat & tares has TWO SOWERS TWO KINDS of SEED & ONE FIELD (24,25; 37-39)

#### MATTHEW 13:24-30 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; 25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. 26 But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. 27 So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?'

#### MATTHEW 13:24-30 (NKJV)

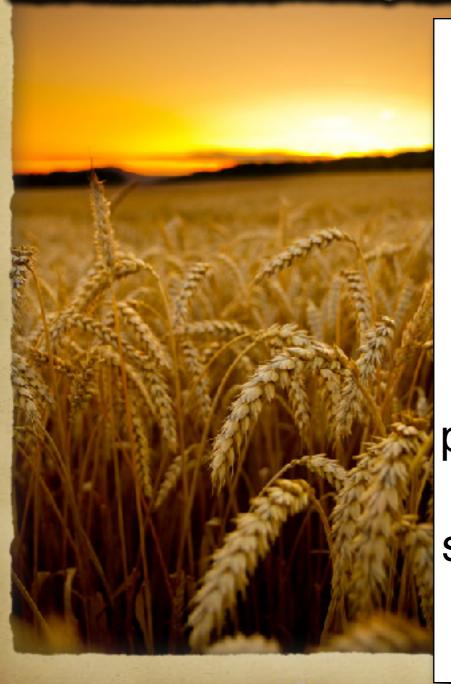
28 He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' 29 But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."

#### The Components of the Parable



- The kingdom itself resembles the situation on this man's farm (24)
- A wealthy farmer sows good seed in his field (grain / wheat) (24)
- An enemy SNEAKS in deliberately **OVER- SOWING** the same field with tares (25)

## The Components of the Parable



**TARES 3.30 ζιζάνιον**, **ου** *n*: a particularly undesirable weed resembling wheat and possessing a seed which is poisonous—'darnel.' έπέσπειρεν ζιζάνια άνὰ μέσον τοῦ σίτου 'he sowed darnel in the midst of the wheat' Mt 13:25. In this one passage in which ζιζάνιον occurs in the NT, it is possible to use an expression such as 'poisonous weed' or 'bad weed.

 Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.). New York: United Bible Societies.



# The Components of the Parable



- Some time had elapsed BEFORE the laborers noticed the problem (26)
- The servants then inquired of their master how this could have happened "didn't you sow good seed ..." (27)
- The farmer knew what had happened an enemy had purposefully did it (28)

## The Components of the Parable



- The servants expect their master to send them out & pull up the tares (28b)
- The farmer knew that if the tares were removed BEFORE the grain became ready for harvest the entire crop would be jeopardized (29)
- At the time of harvest, the reapers would gather the tares to be burned and the wheat gathered to the barn (30)

#### MATTHEW 13:36-43 (NKJV)

36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field." 37 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. 39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.

#### MATTHEW 13:36-43 (NKJV)

40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. 41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

# The Parable Explained

#### Matthew 13:36 (NKJV)

Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house.

And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

- THE SOWER "The Son of Man"
   Dan. 7:13,14; Mat 4:23; Heb.
   1:1; 1 Pet 1:22,23;
- THE FIELD "The world" Jn 3:16; Mt 28:18-20; Mk 16:15,16; 1 Jn 2:2; Col. 1:6,23
  - THE GOOD SEED (WHEAT) "The sons of the kingdom" those in whom the good seed of the gospel bears fruit (vss 20-23; Gal 5:22,23; 2 Pet. 1:5-12)

# The Parable Explained

# Matthew 13:36 (NKJV)

Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house.

And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

- THE TARES "are the sons of the wicked one" who practice lawlessness Mt 7:21-23; 13:41; John 8:44; 1 Jn 5:19
- THE ENEMY "who sowed them is the devil" Mt 4:1-11; 13:19; 2 Co. 11:3, 13–15; 1 Pe. 5:8.
  - THE HARVEST "is the end of the age" Mt 25:30-46; Acts 2:17; Heb. 1:1,2; Jn 5:28,29; 1 Co 15:19-58; 2 Co 5:10; 2 The 1:6-10

# The Parable Explained

Matthew 13:36 (NKJV)

Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house.

And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

- THE REAPERS "are the angels"
  - Angels will accompany
    Christ when He comes again
     2Th 1: 7-9
  - They will separate the wicked from the just those who practice lawlessness and offend will be removed FROM THE KINGDOM cf. Mt 13:49; 25:31ff; Rom 14:19-23

# EMPHASIZING THE MAIN POINTS

Matthew 13:40
(NKJV)

40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.

The problem of the "tares" will not be fully addressed until the "harvest" out of consideration for the "good seed" (cf. Mt 13:29, 40)

# EMPHASIZING THE MAIN POINTS

Matthew 13:41 (NKJV)

<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness,

- The problem of the "tares" will not be fully addressed until the "harvest" out of consideration for the "good seed" (cf. Mt 13:29, 40)
- At the end of this age the Son of Man will finally remove the "tares" out of His kingdom all things that offend, and practice lawlessness" (41)

# EMPHASIZING THE MAIN POINTS

Matthew 13:42 (NKJV)

<sup>42</sup> and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Those so gathered out of His kingdom will be cast into "the furnace of fire", where there will be "wailing and gnashing of teeth!" — Mar. 9:43–49. Luke 16:23, 24. Re. 21:8; Mat 25:41,46

# EMPHASIZING THE MAIN POINTS

Matthew 13:43 (NKJV) 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

- Those so gathered out of His kingdom will be cast into "the furnace of fire", where there will be "wailing and gnashing of teeth!" Mar. 9:43–49. Luke 16:23, 24. Re. 21:8; Mat 25:41,46
  - The blessedness of the "righteous" (the good seed, the sons of the kingdom) will "shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father"!



- CHRIST IS LONG-SUFFERING, but the day of judgment will come 2 Pet 3:3-14; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 The 1:7-9; etc.
- THIS PARABLE DOES NOT PRECLUDE CHURCH DISCIPLINE or TESTING the spirits 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 1 Jn 4:1; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1
- THE KINGDOM IS BOTH PRESENT AND FUTURE! 2 Tim 4:1; 1Co 15:23-26; 1 Pe. 1:7; 5:4; etc.



- ONE MAY BE IN THE KINGDOM NOW, BUT NOT IN THE FUTURE!
  - Angels will gather certain ones "out of His kingdom" Mt 13:41
  - Those who "offend" are "cast into the furnace" Mt 13:42; cf. 18:6-7; Ro 14:13, 19-21;
  - Those who "practice lawlessness" Mt 7:21-23; 2Jn 9
  - Thus warnings to persevere cf. He 3:12-14; 4:1-2, 11



- A PLACE OF PUNISHMENT IS RESERVED FOR THE WICKED!
  - Parable Of The Dragnet cf. Mt 13:49-50
  - The Parable Of The Unforgiving Servant cf. Mt 18:34-35
  - Jesus speaks of a place prepared for the devil and his angels wicked where the wicked will be sent cf. Mt 25:41, 45-46



- GLORY, HONOR & ETERNAL LIFE WITH GOD FOR THE RIGHTEOUS!
  - The glory that will be revealed in us on the last day will be MORE than WORTH whatever suffering experienced in this life 2 Cor. 4:17; Rom. 8:18; Mat. 16:24-26
  - Let us do whatever is necessary to be found in Him in peace 2 Pet 3:10-14

#### ARE WE

# Wheat or Weeds?

Those who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God — John 8:24

Confess Him before men -Mt 10:32; Rom. 10:9,10

Repent - Acts 17:30

Baptized - Acts 2:38; Jn 3:5

Endure - 1 Cor. 15:58

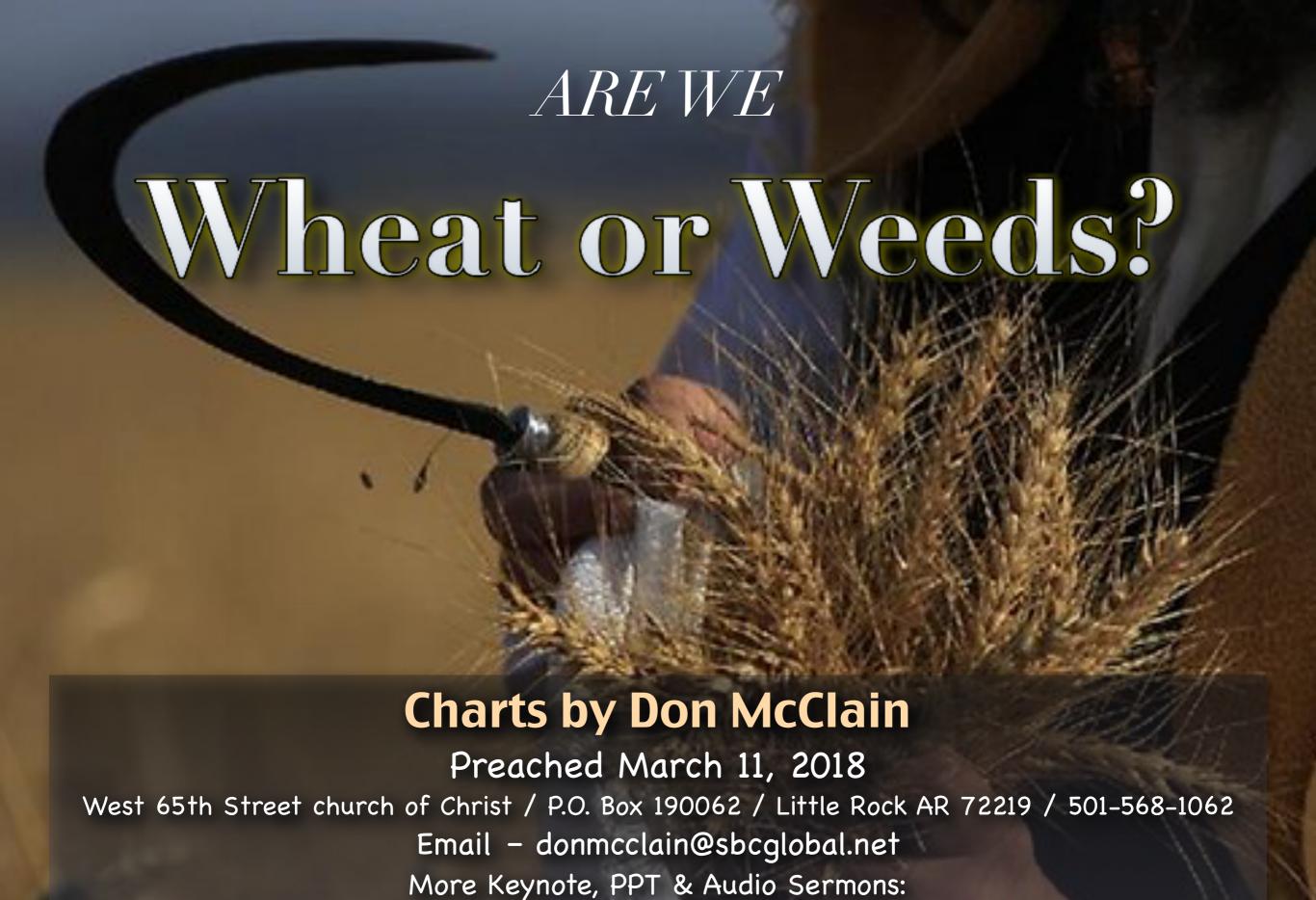
Those who don't believe
Jesus enough to submit to Him
- Mat 7:21; Luke 6:46

Those who deny Christ - Mat. 10:33; Lk 6:46

Impenitent - Rom 2:5-13

Outside Christ - Gal 3:26,27

Overcome — 2 Pet 2:20-22



http://w65stchurchofchrist.org/coc/sermons/

# LUKE 13:22-30 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> And He went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup> Then one said to Him, "Lord, are there few who are saved?" And He said to them, <sup>24</sup> "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

## LUKE 13:22-30 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' 26 then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.'

# LUKE 13:22-30 (NKJV)

<sup>27</sup> But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' 28 There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. 29 They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup> And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last."