



Sermon Series: Mysteries: The Greatest Stories Jesus Told, part 5

Sermon Title: Wheat or Weeds

Speaker/ Date: Armin Sommer, October 4, 2020

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

Big Idea: Everyone here is either “wheat” or a “weed.”

A farmer and his crew go into a field and scatter good seed. But during the night, an enemy sows weeds in the same field. The weed is a type of grass called “darnel” which is identical in appearance to wheat until the end of its growing cycle. There was at first no difference between the plants, but eventually the tops of darnel take on a slate gray color, different from the wheat. Its seeds were toxic due to a fungus. To sow darnel in a field was a serious crime. **Matthew 13:26–27**

The crew wants to pull the weeds. But the root systems of darnel and wheat are so enmeshed that if you pull up one, you’ll uproot the wheat too.

Matthew 13:28–29

The only solution: wait till the harvest to separate the two. **Matthew 13:30**

A close look at the parable reveals 6 important details. Keep in mind that the details in one parable don’t necessarily represent the same things in other parables.

Detail #1: The Sower

Matthew 13:26, 37

Jesus frequently referred to himself by the term Son of Man. It identified him as Messiah and also as God incarnate. **(Daniel 7:13, 14)**

The religious leaders knew who Jesus was claiming to be. That’s why they ask, **“Are you then the Son of God?” (Luke 22:70).** The sower is Jesus.

Detail #2: The Field

Matthew 13:38a

Jesus is sowing seed in the world. He owns it and will eventually fully reclaim it.

Detail #3: The Good Seed

Matthew 13:38b

God's agenda is to plant his people throughout the world. All those who have by faith in Christ become sons and daughters of the Almighty.

Detail #4: The Weeds

Matthew 13:38c–39a

It is common for people to say that everybody is a child of God. That is true only in the sense that every human being bears the image of God. But we are born spiritually dead and if we do not experience the new birth through faith in Christ, becoming children of God, then we remain children of the devil.

Detail #5: The Harvest

Matthew 13:39

The condemnation and disposition of the “weeds” are God's prerogative. Not ours. And that will not take place until the end of the age. God has not called us to judge the world. Our battle is... **Ephesians 6:12**

God patiently waits for all who would be his to come to him. **2 Peter 3:9**

Detail #6: The Separation Of Wheat & Weeds

Matthew 13:40–42

We are to call people to repentance. But we are not the reapers. Jesus will return with his angels to accomplish that. **2 Thessalonians 1:7b–9**
Jesus will return to establish his earthly kingdom. Then will take place the judgment of separation.

The furnace is the imagery of eternal separation from God. It describes the doom and despair of all the lost who refuse God's gift. **Revelation 19:30** describes their end in a lake of fire.

If you have not believed on the Lord Jesus as your Savior, you need to do that today. He will do a miraculous work and convert you into good seed... a son or daughter of his Kingdom.

Discussion Questions:

- What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?

- **Every human bears the image of God. What does that mean? Does that mean that every person is a child of God? Explain**
- **Is it possible to tell the difference between genuine believers and counterfeit believers? Explain**
- **What reason would a person have to pose as a genuine Christian?**
- **God has not called us to judge the world – He will do that at the end of the age. For Christians, is there a difference between judging others and evaluating the fruit of their lives?**