

I. Jesus Reveals a Troubling Reality (24-26)

- A. Pure planting (24) - “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field .”
- B. Problematic planting (25b) - “But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds...” **Bearded darnel**
- C. Precise planting (25c) - “...among the wheat and went away.”
- D. Poisonous planting (26) - “So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.”

II. Jesus Details A Confusing Consequence (27-30)

- A. The doubt of the servants (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?'"
- B. The declaration to the servants (28a) - “He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this....’”
- C. The desire of the servants (28b) – “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” **Sons of thunder (Luke 9:57)**
- D. The denying of the servants (29) - “No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them.”
It is not given to us to give ourselves to the uprooting of tares. We are commissioned to continual planting of good seed.
- E. The duty of the servants (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.”

III. Jesus Imparts an Instructive Prophecy (36-43)

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."

- A. We must acknowledge what is clear (36-38a) - “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom.”
- B. We must own what is difficult (38b-39a) - “...the weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil...” **Jesus prophesied from the beginning that there would be counterfeits, impostors and hypocrites**
- C. We must proclaim what is coming (39b-42) - “The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”
- D. We must wait for Kingdom-climax (43) - “Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”