

## **Wheat... Weeds... No Worries**

### ***The Parable of the Tares***

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#### **Matthew 13:24-30 (NLT)**

*<sup>24</sup> Here is another story Jesus told: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a farmer who planted good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But that night as the workers slept, his enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat, then slipped away. <sup>26</sup> When the crop began to grow and produce grain, the weeds also grew. <sup>27</sup> "The farmer's workers went to him and said, 'Sir, the field where you planted that good seed is full of weeds! Where did they come from?' <sup>28</sup> "An enemy has done this!" the farmer exclaimed. "Should we pull out the weeds?" they asked. <sup>29</sup> "No," he replied, 'you'll uproot the wheat if you do. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest. Then I will tell the harvesters to sort out the weeds, tie them into bundles, and burn them, and to put the wheat in the barn.'"*

**A parable is an earthly story with a spiritual and, at times, prophetic meaning.**

#### **Galatians 6:7-8 (NKJV)**

*<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. <sup>8</sup> For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.*

#### **Jesus gives the interpretation of the parable—**

##### **Matthew 13:36-43 (NLT)**

*<sup>36</sup> Then, leaving the crowds outside, Jesus went into the house. His disciples said, "Please explain to us the story of the weeds in the field." <sup>37</sup> Jesus replied, "The Son of Man is the farmer who plants the good seed. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed represents the people of the Kingdom. The weeds are the people who belong to the evil one. <sup>39</sup> The enemy who planted the weeds among the wheat is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world, and the harvesters are the angels. <sup>40</sup> "Just as the weeds are sorted out and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the world. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will remove from his Kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. <sup>42</sup> And the angels will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's Kingdom. Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand!"*

### **1. WHAT DO YOU SEE?**

A world filled with wheat where weeds are growing or a world filled with weeds where wheat is growing?

### **2. WHEAT vs. WEEDS**

- 1) The difference between wheat and weeds is that wheat is always in the row that you planted it.
- 2) Wheat follows the rules, as it were, obeys the farmer's commands, grows where the farmer has planted it.
- 3) Wheat multiplies only by planting.

### **3. WHAT ARE YOU GROWING?**

- Find your row and GROW. Bloom where you are planted.
- Be a Psalm 1 tree.
- Let your influence shade out or deprive the weeds of sunlight and water they need to survive.
- Don't be a stalk of wheat in a field by yourself. Grow with others in a community of wheat.