

Sunday School Lesson, Tuesday, July 18th, & Sunday, July 23rd, 2023
by Pastor Dwight Benoit
Summer Quarter Lesson ~ June, July, and August 2023

Lesson 8 – Unit II Theme: “JESUS Envisions The KINGdom!”
Envision, verb, meaning, to visualize; to see in one’s mind’s eye.

Subject: “Growing Together!”

Text: Matthew 13: 24-30. 36-43

Key word...

Tare, ‘zizanon,’ (dziz-an’-ee-on), a kind of darnel resembling wheat. A pseudo-believer (false christian; superficially appears to be one thing but is something else); a fruitless person living *without Faith from GOD* and therefore is “all show and no go!”

Did You Notice... Last week Lesson in the *The Parable* that **JESUS** told, **HE DID NOT** say, “**The KINGdom of Heaven** is likened...” because in this Lesson **HE** describes HOW **The KINGdom** begins... it begins with 1. The Preaching/Teaching of **The WORD**—that is, the planting of “**HIS SEED—The WORD of GOD--HIMSELF**” in the hearts of Hearers.

Lesson Topics...

1. Let Them All Grow Together (Matthew 13: 24-30)
2. Let The Called Grow Together (Matthew 13: 36-43)

The *Central TRUTH*, **JESUS** teaches in this *Parable* is “Wherever **HE** plants **HIS disciples** (True Believers) to bear Fruit for **HIS Glory**... Satan plants *False* christians to *oppose* [be against, fight (against), block, counter] **CHRIST’ KINGdom. Hinder CHRIST’ Harvest.**”

Satan ‘*opposes*’ **The KINGdom of Heaven** by trying to “*snatch*” **The WORD of GOD in CHRIST JESUS**, from our hearts... Matthew 13: 19, “...*then cometh the wicked one and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.*”

When that fails, Satan has other ways to attack!

Satan is primarily an ‘imitator.’ [impersonator, mimic, copycat] He plants ‘*false christians*.’ Satan can not uproot the Plants (True Born-again **CHRISTians**), so He plants, ‘counterfeit christians.’

Note, v. 38, “...the good seed” is NOT “**The WORD of GOD**” ... it’s the “converted,” “the Born-Again believer in “**JESUS CHRIST**,” through trusting on **GOD’S WORD, JESUS CHRIST**.

Note, v. 38, “The field...” is NOT human hearts, it’s the world, we live in.

Point: **JESUS CHRIST** is sowing True Believers in various places in this world...

The *purpose*, “to bear Fruit.”

But wherever **JESUS CHRIST** sows a True **CHRISTian**, Satan sows a ‘counterfeit christian.’
[2 Corinthians 11: 26—counterfeit christian (brethren); Galatians 1: 6-9—counterfeit Gospel;
Romans 10: 1-3—counterfeit righteousness; Revelation 2: 9—counterfeit Church;
2 Thessalonians 2: 1-12—counterfeit christ.]

Point: We must stay ‘*awake*’ or ‘*alert*’ so that Satan ‘counterfeit-ministers’ do not get into the True Fellowship and do damage.

Read 2 Peter 2... Peter warns that ‘false prophets’ deny **The SOVEREIGN LORDship of JESUS CHRIST**. Though their *heresies* may include the denials of **JESUS’ Virgin Birth**, **JESUS** came as **EMMANUEL--GOD** in The Flesh, **JESUS**, died, was buried, but raised from the dead and is Coming Again. These false teachers’ basic error is that they will NOT submit their lives to **The Rule of CHRIST**.

Read also, I John 4: 1-6... ‘Put it to the Test...’ If anyone is from **GOD**, they will hear us and they will listen to our message that **JESUS is LORD!**

Our task is NOT to ‘pull up’ “the false,” but “to plant” **The TRUTH**.

We must ‘*oppose*’ Satan and *expose* His lies. We must Sow, **The WORD**, bear Fruit, where **JESUS** plants us.

If it’s a concern (and it shouldn’t be), that is, what’s going to happen to the ‘*tares*?’

Well, **GOD** will gather them together and burn them. [See it happening is even now... the *religious* merging groups... *religious* conformities... the pleasing of the people vs. *Pleasing GOD!*]

Final Points...

--A sleeping Church is an opportunity for Satan to plant ‘false christians.’ (Proverbs 24: 30-34)

--Again, “Be *Discerning!*” (I John 4: 1-6)