

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ JESUS told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸ “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹ “‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then HE left the crowd and went into the house. HIS disciples came to HIM and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷ HE answered, “The ONE who sowed the good seed is the SON OF MAN. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sow them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The SON OF MAN will send out HIS angels, and they will weed out of HIS Kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴² They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of GOD. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Memory Verse: Matthew 13:41

“The SON OF MAN will send out HIS angels, and they will weed out of HIS Kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. “

EVEN THE DEVIL GOES TO CHURCH

IS THERE A DEVIL?

DETAILS OF THE STORY

HOW THE DEVIL WORKS

1) Unbelievers in our midst.

2) Guilt.

3) Sowing dissension.

PUTTING UP A HEDGE

1) Be positive.

2) Present a different church.

3) Be ready to go to the dark places.

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY

Getting Started

- 1) What was your attitude/mind-set when you entered worship this week? What was it when you left worship? What most contributed to that change?
- 2) What insight, principle or observation from this week's message did you find most helpful, eye opening, or troubling? Explain.

Into the Bible

- 3) Read Isaiah 44:6-8. What was GOD saying to those who were crying out for a king? How is GOD different from earthly kings? What is our role in GOD'S Kingdom?
- 4) Read Romans 8:12-25. What responsibilities are given to those who live in the SPIRIT? What promises? What privileges? What is our future hope? What promise accompanies this hope?

- 5) Read Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. What is the good seed? What does the work of the devil in this parable tell you about the nature of the devil? What future do those who choose not to be part of the kingdom face?

Application to Life

- 6) What do you believe about the existence and work of the devil? What does this parable tell you about the devil? Why would the devil "sow weeds" among the "sons and daughters of the kingdom?"
- 7) What does it mean that JESUS sows "sons of the Kingdom" in the world? Who are the "sons and daughters of the Kingdom?" For what purpose do you think we are sown?
- 8) How do you see the devil at work in the world today? In the church? How might the work of the devil be a clue to something great happening for GOD'S Kingdom? What are some ways that you can stop the devil's work?
- 9) What do you sense GOD is saying to you based on this study?