

THE PARABLES—Section 2, Part 3

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Mark Kring, Senior Pastor

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1. In this parable, Jesus explains Satan's strategies during this time frame and ultimately what happens.
2. 13:25 In the ancient world, sowing tares was done as a revenge tactic by an enemy who wanted to destroy someone's crop.
3. 13:29 An experienced landowner knew that more damage would be done by pulling out the weeds than by leaving them alone.
4. 13:30 Only at the time of harvest can good and bad plants be distinguished with certainty.
5. Jesus is coming again! But it is not a second coming only because the first one didn't work out so well; rather it is because God is not willing that any would perish (2 Peter 3:9).
6. 13:36 The disciples' question seems to reflect this thought: Why are tares allowed to coexist with good wheat? Or put another way: Why does God allow evil in the world to continue?
7. 13:37-39 In the same field where Christ sows true Christians, Satan comes and sows counterfeit.
8. 13:38 This is a picture of the church in the world, not the world in the church. The Lord places His people in the world to grow and to become fruitful.
9. 13:37 This is a global conflict between God's purposes and the scheming of Satan.
10. 13:39 This age we live in is not the age of God's judgment. Believers are not God's instruments of judgment but His instruments of grace. Toward unbelievers we are to have hearts of compassion.
11. 13:40 In the meantime, we co-exist. Our task is not to pull up the false but to sow the Truth.

SONG TITLES

"Holy Water" words and music by Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash
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