

WELCOME TO THE KINGDOM

Part 2 "WHEAT & TARES"

By Phillip Hayes

"Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn" [Matthew 13:24-30].

This parable does not address the past Kingdom given to the Jewish people, but with the Kingdom given to Jesus. Jesus begins to explain this parable to His disciples in verse 36, *"Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field. He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the*

children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels" [Matthew 13:36-39].

Jesus reveals there are two seeds sown in the earth producing two kingdoms (more about these two kingdoms later). They are growing together in the same field. One seed is sown by the Son of man and the other by the devil. These are called wheat and tares. They have been growing together since the beginning. Although the tares are in the kingdom, they are not of the Kingdom. At the end, (the time of harvest), the two seeds will be separated. This is why God has commanded His people to, "Come out of her, my people." (See Revelation 18:4). God's people will separate themselves in the last days!

Let us continue and get a better grasp of the mystery of the kingdom: *"The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear" [Matthew 13:38-43].*

It is very plain there will be a separation within "His Kingdom"! You may believe in "Once saved, always saved" and that you can live in sin and still make heaven your home, but the scriptures are plain. *"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity" [2Timothy 2:19].*

Throughout the New Testament, we are warned to "Sin no more" (See John 5:14; 8:11). Here are a few more pleas from the Apostles that every Christian should consider: *"What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid" [Romans 6:15]. "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him" [1John 3:6]. "We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not" [1John 5:18]. "Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children" [2Peter 2:14]. "For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off" [Romans 11:21-22].* There are several others, but need I say more!

These are dire warnings to those that claim salvation through Christ but have not departed from iniquity. It takes little spiritual discernment to realize that something is very wrong among God's people. And my friends, God is doing something about it! He has sent forth His angels, His "ministers", and they are gathering out of His kingdom all that offend and do iniquity. How? By the Word of judgement!

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" [1Peter 4:17-18]. Judgement must first begin at the house of God. That's the kingdom of God! The fire of the Holy Ghost is purging out the old leaven and the wickedness in men. Those that refuse to be purged will be

lost. *"Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous" [Psalms 1:5].* The time will soon come when the unbeliever will not be able to sit in the congregation, (Kingdom) of the righteous.

Jesus said, *"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity" [Matthew 13:41].*

How did they get in? Jude said, *"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" [Jude 1:4].* From the beginning of the New Covenant men have perverted the gospel of Christ and preached another Jesus. They have reaped millions of souls through their false seed (word). But they have not brought forth the image of Christ! If you sow corn, you should get corn. In the same manner, if you sow Jesus the Word, you should expect to get Jesus. If you sow a compromised watered down gospel, you will harvest nothing but church members. I want you to see, there are all kinds in the Kingdom of God; but they are being separated.

The separation is to enable the true seed to be manifested and shine forth in the Kingdom of God. For it is God's will in the end time to bring forth a man in His own image. This man is the corporate man, (body of Christ), that is predestinated to come to the very image of the Son of God. (See Romans 8:29, 12:2). Praise God! The righteous shall shine forth as the sun (Son)!

Now just one more witness that the Kingdom of God brings in all kinds: *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall*

come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord" [Matthew 13:47-51].

There it is once again, the Gospel of the Kingdom is like a net. In the end of the world there will be a time of separation.

God declared the end from the beginning! *"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" [Isaiah 46:10].* What did God do in the beginning that was a foreshadow of this soon coming event? He separated the darkness from the light! The truly "Born again" are children of the day and not of the night.

The parables of the Kingdom in Matthew thirteen end the same. There will be a separation in the end time. The wicked will be cast into the fire or outer darkness and there will be weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth. The Lord also spoke about the scenario of the end time in Matthew chapter seven. Let's read it together for it will bring up a question that must be answered. Is there a Kingdom coming beyond this present one we exist in?

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity". [Matthew 7:21-23].

This statement is remarkable given the revelation of God's Spiritual Kingdom. We have understood very clearly that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand or being

established during the time of Christ and the Apostles. Also, the kingdom was going to endure all the way to the end of the world and the wicked would be cast out, and the righteous would be manifested. However, in Matthew chapter seven Jesus is speaking about the time of judgement at the end of the world. He states not everyone that calls Jesus "Lord" will enter the Kingdom of Heaven! What does He mean?

Jesus gives us a little more insight about the coming judgment in Matthew chapter 25. *"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left" [Matthew 25:31-33].*

It is very obvious there are two different kinds of people that stand before God in the Judgment! One is referred to as sheep, the other are called goats. Similar in appearance, but from different seeds.

First let's look at those that come before the throne of God and address Jesus proudly and firmly, "Lord, Lord!" Jesus said there would be many! "in thy name, and in thy name, cast out devils and done many wonderful works?"

Obviously, these people thought they were saved! No doubt they had been very active workers in ministry during their lives on earth. They had prophesied in Jesus name. They said, "we cast out devils in Jesus name". They also did many wonderful works in His name. Jesus told them to depart from Him, for He never knew them!

Who were these people? They are Christians in name only! They had never experienced the New Birth! They had been deceived into believing a false gospel! They had believed the seed (word) of the wicked one. These are the

tares that loved the world more than they loved God. They love to go to church and appear to be righteous but were in fact only pretenders.

These are the deceived! Thinking that God has received them in their iniquities. These are the proud, the worldly, the materialistic. They are bold as they come before Jesus with their declarations of all they had done for Him. This is so sad! These people come before Jesus thinking they were going to be rewarded for all their good works only to find they were never saved, and all their religious works netted them nothing. This should be a dire warning to everyone! Have you made your calling and election sure? Are you "Born Again"?

What about this Kingdom they were not allowed to enter into? Has the Lord prepared something else, another Kingdom perhaps for those that love Him?

In part one of "Welcome To The Kingdom", we found that the kingdom we now enjoy is a spiritual one. *"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost" [Romans 14:17].*

The Kingdom of God is the Holy Ghost, which is: *"Christ in you, the hope of glory".* It is a Kingdom established with power and government: *"But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power. For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power. What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?" [I Corinthians 4:19-21].*

So what is coming? Some of our answers are found in the book of Daniel. *"I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting*

dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" [Daniel 7:13-14].

In the Book of Daniel, we find "one like the son of man" coming with clouds and given a Kingdom that would never be destroyed! We know this "son of man" in Daniel is the Lord Jesus Christ. In the Book of Revelation, we find these precious words concerning the Second Coming of Jesus! *"Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen" [Revelation 1:7].* Compare this "cometh with clouds" to the vision of Daniel we have just read.

A few more verses down in Daniel chapter seven we see another prophecy about the Kingdom, *"But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever." (Daniel 7:18)*

Now let us look at two very similar scriptures in the New Testament. *"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force" [Matthew 11:12].* And now from the Gospel of Luke, *"The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it" [Luke 16:16]*

The law and the prophets were the message until John burst on the scene. John was the first to preach that the Kingdom was at hand! When people heard about the Kingdom, *"every man pressed into it"*. Jesus also declared the Kingdom to be at hand and said, *"Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" [Luke 12:32].* Although one must "press" into the Kingdom, the Kingdom is a free gift from God. We no longer "violently take it by force". The Holy Ghost is a gift! (See Acts chapter 2:38-39).

Can you imagine how hard it must have been for the people of that era to accept the message of Christ and the

Apostles? And what about those scattered across the world that were deep into the occult and image worship? They would have to press into the Word of the Kingdom also; but it was the Father's good pleasure to give it to them! Just as it is today! It is the Gift of God!

Now back to Daniel the seventh chapter. *"And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him" [Daniel 7:27].*

This is another remarkable scripture for it clearly states that the kingdom and dominion under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints and that all dominions shall serve and obey Him. The word dominion in Hebrew is empires; kingdoms, nations, etc. What empires under the heavens is this scripture talking about? It is obvious these "dominions" under the whole heaven could only mean the earthly kingdoms of this world; such as the United States, Russia, China and so on.

Now, I believe "the kingdom and the greatness of the kingdom" in verse seven is speaking of the Kingdom of God we now possess and enjoy. However, the reference to "all dominions shall serve him" is speaking of the time when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord. *"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" [Ephesians 2:9-11].* (Also see Romans 14:11).

The book of Revelations reveals this in the eleventh chapter: *"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world*

are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever" [Revelation 11:15]. The kingdoms of this world (earthly empires, nations) shall be given to our Lord and His Christ!

This is yet to be fulfilled. However, the scripture is plain in Daniel and Revelation. The kingdoms of this world; the kingdom under the whole heaven, will soon become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ. Remember, we are heirs of God and joint (equal) heirs with Christ.

I am not sure if any of us realize the great authority God has given to mankind. Look at these amazing verses in Hebrews. *"But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings" [Hebrews 2:6-10].*

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"WELCOME TO THE KINGDOM"

PART 3 (THE MILLENNIAL REIGN)