

The Wheat and the Tares
Sermon: Paul Chapman

PowerPoint Outline

I. The Wheat and The Tares

1. Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43

II. Introduction

1. Two Classes in Church

B. Good and Bad Metal

C. Good and Bad Fish

D. Good and Evil Servant

III. Introduction

A. "Both the parable of the tares and that of the net plainly teach that there is no time when all the wicked will turn to God. **The wheat and the tares grow together** until the harvest. **The good and the bad fish are together** drawn ashore for a **final separation.**" Christ's Object Lessons, p. 123:1.

B.

IV. Introduction

1. What does the casting of the net mean?

B. "The casting of the net is **the preaching of the gospel**. This gathers both good and evil into the church. When the mission of the gospel is completed, the **judgment will accomplish the work of separation**. Christ saw how the existence of false brethren in the church would cause the way of truth to be evil spoken of. The world would revile the gospel because of the inconsistent lives of false professors. Even Christians would be caused to stumble as they saw that many who bore Christ's name were not controlled by His Spirit."

V. Introduction

A. "Again, these parables teach that there is to be no probation after the judgment. When the work of the gospel is completed, there immediately follows the separation between the good and the evil, and the destiny of each class is forever fixed." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 123:2.

B.

VI. Introduction

1. Should we separate the evil ones from the church?

B. Three Applications of the Parable

C. Need to Understand the Field

VII. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 1--The WORLD is the Field

VIII. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 1--The WORLD is the Field

B. "We as a people profess to have truth in advance of every other people upon the earth. Then our life and character should be in harmony with such a faith. The day is just upon us when the righteous shall be bound like precious grain in bundles for the heavenly garner, while the wicked are, like the tares, gathered for the fires of the last great day. But the wheat and tares 'grow together until the harvest.' In the discharge of life's duties the righteous will to the last be brought in contact with the ungodly. The children of light are scattered among the children of darkness, that the contrast may be seen by all..." Vol. 5, Testimonies for the Church, p. 100:2.

IX. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 1--The WORLD is the Field

B. APPLICATION 1--The WORLD is the Field

C. Wheat \ Children of God

- D. Tares ` Children of the wicked one
- E. Cannot escape this world until the Harvest
- F. Angels harvest the wheat into the garner when Jesus comes

X. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B. "The field,' Christ said, 'is the world.' But we must understand this as signifying **the church of Christ in the world**. The parable is a description of that which pertains to the kingdom of God, His work of salvation of men; and this work is accomplished through the church. True, the Holy Spirit has gone out into all the world; everywhere it is moving upon the hearts of men; but **it is in the church that we are to grow and ripen for the garner of God.**" Christ's Object Lessons, p. 70:2.

XI. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B. "The church of Christ on earth will be imperfect, but God does not destroy His church because of its imperfection. There have been and will be those who are filled with zeal not according to knowledge, who would purify the church, and uproot the tares from the midst of the wheat. But Christ has given special light as to how to deal with those who are erring, and with those who are unconverted in the church. There is to be no spasmodic, zealous, hasty action taken by church members in cutting off those they may think defective in character..."

XII. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B. "Tares will appear among the wheat; but it would do more harm to weed out the tares, unless in God's appointed way, than to leave them alone. While the Lord brings into the church those who are truly converted, Satan at the same time brings persons who are not converted into its fellowship. While Christ is sowing the good seed, Satan is sowing the tares. There are two opposing influences continually exerted on the members of the church. One influence is working for the purification of the church, and the other for the corrupting of the people of God." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 46:1.

XIII. members in cutting off those they may think defective in character..."

XIV. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B. Wheat & Tares in the Church

C. "'He that sowed the good seed is the Son of man. . . . The good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one.' The good seed represents those who are born of the word of God, the truth. The tares represent a class who are the fruit or embodiment of error, of false principles. 'The enemy that sowed them is the devil.' Neither God nor His angels ever sowed a seed that would produce a tare. The tares are always sown by Satan, the enemy of God and man." Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 70-71.

XV. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B. "Christ's servants are grieved as they see true and false believers mingled in the church. They long to do something to cleanse the church. Like the servants of the householder, they are ready to uproot the tares. But Christ says to them, 'Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest.'" Christ's Object Lessons, p. 71:2.

XVI. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B. "The world has no right to doubt the truth of Christianity because there are unworthy members in the church, nor should Christians become disheartened because of these false brethren. How was it with the early church? Ananias and Sapphira joined themselves to the disciples. Simon Magus was baptized. Demas, who

forsook Paul, had been counted a believer..."

XVII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B."Judas Iscariot was numbered with the apostles. The Redeemer does not want to lose one soul; His experience with Judas is recorded to show His long patience with perverse human nature; and He bids us bear with it as He has borne. He has said that false brethren will be found in the church till the close of time." Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 72-73.

XVIII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B.Should we try to uproot them?

C."Christ has plainly taught that those who persist in open sin must be separated from the church, but He has not committed to us the work of judging character and motive. He knows our nature too well to entrust this work to us. Should we try to uproot from the church those whom we suppose to be spurious Christians, we should be sure to make mistakes..."

XIX.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B."...Often we regard as hopeless subjects the very ones whom Christ is drawing to Himself. Were we to deal with these souls according to our imperfect judgment, it would perhaps extinguish their last hope. Many who think themselves Christians will at last be found wanting. Many will be in heaven who their neighbors supposed would never enter there. Man judges from appearance, but God judges the heart. The tares and the wheat are to grow together until the harvest; and the harvest is the end of probationary time." Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 71-72.

XX.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

XXI.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B.When is the end of probationary time?

1.Probation closes for church first

C.Open sinners are not tares

D.Open Sin Must Be Dealt with

1.(Matt 18)

XXII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B."I saw the rapidity with which this delusion was spreading. A train of cars was shown me, going with the speed of lightning. The angel bade me look carefully. I fixed my eyes upon the train. It seemed that the whole world was on board, that there could not be one left. Said the angel, 'They are binding in bundles ready to burn.'..."

XXIII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B."I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in an opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling a narrow pathway. All seemed to be firmly united, bound together by the truth, in bundles, or companies. Said the angel, 'The third angel is binding, or sealing, them in bundles for the heavenly garner.' This little company looked careworn, as if they had passed through severe trials and conflicts..." Early Writings, pp. 88-89.

XXIV.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B.A little company bound together in bundles?

C.How? They are harvested or sealed.

D.However they are not taken yet taken to the garner. When they harvest the

wheat or the grain they bind them in the field and wait for a certain day to be taken to the garner.

XXV.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B."If persons are as deserving of being separated from the church as Satan was of being cast out of heaven, they will have sympathizers. There is always a class who are more influenced by individuals than they are by the Spirit of God and sound principles; and, in their unconsecrated state, these are ever ready to take sides with the wrong and give their pity and sympathy to the very ones who least deserve it. These sympathizers have a powerful influence with others; things are seen in a perverted light, great harm is done, and many souls are ruined...."

XXVI.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B."Satan in his rebellion took a third part of the angels. They turned from the Father and from His Son, and united with the instigator of rebellion. With these facts before us we should move with the greatest caution. What can we expect but trial and perplexity in our connection with men and women of peculiar minds? We must bear this and avoid the necessity of rooting up the tares, lest the wheat be rooted up also." Vol. 3, Testimonies to the Church, pp. 114 -115.

XXVII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

B.If we suspect that a person is a tare, we cannot judge motive and character.

C.We cannot judge a person until there is an open sin.

D.Why not?

E.Because there will always be sympathizers. When there are sympathizers, then let the fruit be ripened.

XXVIII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

XXIX.

".I have been shown that God here illustrates how He regards sin among those who profess to be His commandment-keeping people. Those whom He has specially honored with witnessing the remarkable exhibitions of His power, as did ancient Israel, and who will even then venture to disregard His express directions, will be subjects of His wrath. He would teach His people that disobedience and sin are exceedingly offensive to Him and are not to be lightly regarded. He shows us that when His people are found in sin they should at once take decided measures to put that sin from them, that His frown may not rest upon them all.

XXX.

".But if the sins of the people are passed over by those in responsible positions, His frown will be upon them, and the people of God, as a body, will be held responsible for those sins. In His dealings with His people in the past the Lord shows the necessity of purifying the church from wrongs. One sinner may diffuse darkness that will exclude the light of God from the entire congregation. When the people realize that darkness is settling upon them, and they do not know the cause, they should seek God earnestly, in great humility and self-abasement, until the wrongs which grieve His Spirit are searched out and put away. {3T 265.1}

XXXI.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 3--The Heart is the Field

B."As the birds are ready to catch up the seed from the wayside, so Satan is ready to catch away the seeds of divine truth from the soul." Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 44.

XXXII.The Wheat and The Tares

1. APLICATION 3--The Heart is the Field

B.Seed?

C. "The seed sown by the wayside represents the word of God as it falls upon the heart of an inattentive hearer." Christ's Object Lessons, p. 44:2.

D. "Ever since the fall of man, Satan has been sowing the seeds of error..."

E. "...A sower from a higher world, Christ came to sow the seeds of truth..."

F. "In that first promise spoken to our fallen race in Eden, Christ was sowing the gospel seed." Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 37-38.

XXXIII. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 3--The Heart is the Field

B. "In another parable which Jesus presented to His disciples, He likened the kingdom of heaven to a field wherein a man sowed good seed, but in which, while he was sleeping, the enemy sowed tares. The question was asked the householder: 'Didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this...Satan never sleeps. He is watching, and he improves every opportunity to set his agents to scatter error, which finds good soil in many unsanctified hearts.'" Vol. 3, Testimonies to the Church, p. 113:1.

XXXIV. The Wheat and The Tares

1. APPLICATION 2--The Church of Christ in the WORLD is the Field

XXXV. The Wheat and The Tares

1. Conclusion

B. The entire application of the parable depends on what the field symbolizes.

C. The WORLD

D. The CHURCH

E. The HEART