

Carry the Light

Mt.13:24-30, 36-43

"From whence...hath it tares?"



Mt. 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, **his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat**, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, **and brought forth fruit**, then appeared the tares also.

27 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?**

28 He said unto them, **An enemy hath done this**. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.



30 **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. ...

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.

37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but **the tares are the children of the wicked one;**

39 **The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world;** and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.



41 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;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43 **Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.** Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

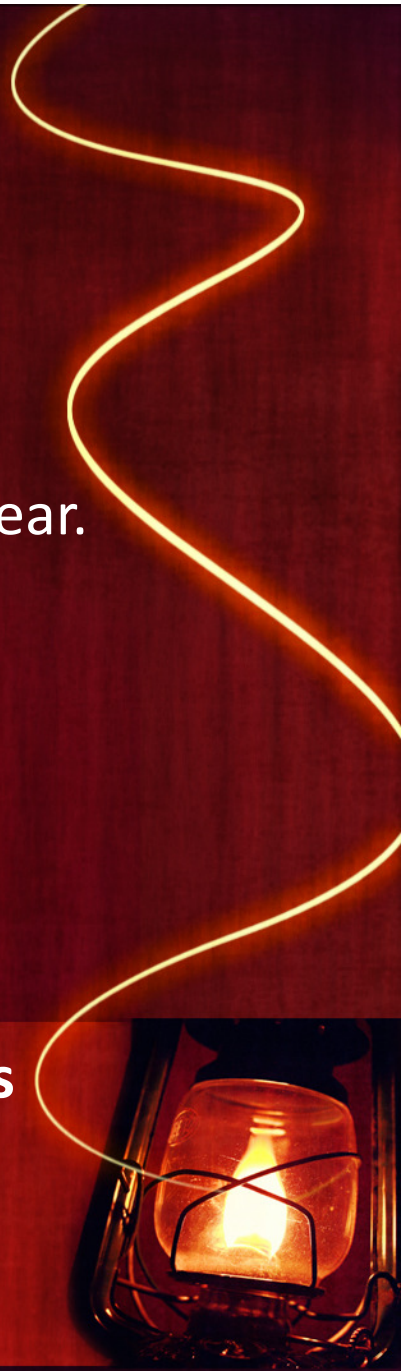
Review

Our theme for 2017 is “Carry the Light.”

The conduct of a true Christian, one who is genuinely “born again,” is the outcome of a doctrinal foundation.

We are **“living out our faith,”** and our testimony indicates the quality of it, be it good or bad.

As I believe, therefore I live.



Introduction

If the conduct of a true Christian, one who is genuinely “born again,” is the outcome of a doctrinal foundation, is it possible that some who profess Christ are not true Christians?

1 Jn. 2:8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, **which thing is true in him** and in you: because the darkness is past, and **the true light now shineth.**

9 **He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.**

10 **He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.** (See Jn. 1:8-9)

In our passage this morning, the Lord Jesus Christ is teaching us a principle that concludes with “...Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”



I. THE PANORAMIC PERSPECTIVE

A. The Realm of Christendom, Mt. 13:24-26

Mt. 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, **his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat**, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, **and brought forth fruit**, then appeared the tares also.



B. The Reality from Christ, Mt. 13:37-38

Mt. 13:37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;
38 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 PARABLE OF THE



Wheat and Tares

https://images.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search;_ylt=A86.J78LKztZolAADEAPxQt.?p=what+are+tares+in+the+bible&fr=yhs-adk-adk_sbnt&fr2=piv-web&hspart=adk&hsimp=yhs-adk_sbnt&type=em_appfocus1_ff#id=1&iurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.yeshua.files.wordpress.com%2F2014%2F12%2Fwheat-and-tares-e1.jpg%3Fw%3D500%26h%3D407&action=click

- Both the wheat and the tares are plants, and though similar, they are different.
- All mankind are sinners, and though similar, they are different.

Rom. 3:23 For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

Rom. 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that **all have sinned**:

Rom. 3:22 Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ **unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:**



1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2 And **he is the propitiation for our sins**: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*.

II. THE POINTED PRONOUNCEMENT

A. The Clarification for the Servants

Mt. 13:27 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?**

28 He said unto them, **An enemy hath done this**. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?



- The servants were naïve regarding the sowing – “...Sir, **didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?**”
- The servants were negligent regarding the separation – “...The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?”

B. The Counterfeiting by Satan

Mt. 13:39 **The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world;** and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

- Some evangelists believe that perhaps as high as 90% of church members are lost.



January 18, 2005

Who Has Been Born Again?

by Albert L. Winseman, D. Min.

The percentage of Americans who identify themselves as "born-again" or "evangelical" did not shift from 2003 to 2004, according to Gallup data aggregated from each year*. **In 2003, 42% of U.S. adults said they were born-again or evangelical; the 2004 percentage is 41%.**

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/14632/Who-Has-Been-Born-Again.aspx>

Researcher George Barna has discovered the disturbing fact that “half of all adults who attend Protestant churches on a typical Sunday morning are not Christian.” He also points out that people who call themselves Christians but are not born again are “a group that constitutes a majority of churchgoers.”



Barna's findings are similar to those reported by Bill Bright, founder and fifty-year president of Campus Crusade for Christ. According to Bright, "Our surveys suggest that over 50% of the hundred million people in church here in the United States every Sunday are not sure of their salvation."

In addition to discovering that 50% of people in church are "lost churchgoers," the Barna Research Group has also revealed that **44% of Americans are "notional Christians." These 90 million notional Christians are people who describe themselves as Christians but do not believe that their hope for eternal life is based on a personal relationship with Jesus and the belief that He died and rose again from the dead.**



According to On Mission magazine, published by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, **“notional Christians” do not know “whether they will experience eternal life, eternal damnation or some other outcome.”**

In addition to not knowing their eternal destiny, many churchgoers hold to inconsistent beliefs about how people get to heaven. In an October 2003 study, Barna revealed that **50% of professing born again Christians “contend that a person can earn salvation based upon good works.”** This clearly contradicts the biblical teaching that salvation is by grace alone, not by works.

The confusion of churchgoers also extends to the way of salvation. Although the Bible teaches that Jesus is the only way of salvation, Barna points out that **“Many committed born again Christians believe that people have multiple options for gaining entry to Heaven.”** <http://www.lostinchurch.com/lic.html>



May 15, 2017

Record Few Americans Believe Bible Is Literal Word of God

by Lydia Saad

Fewer than one in four Americans (24%) now believe the Bible is "the actual word of God, and is to be taken literally, word for word," similar to the 26% who view it as "a book of fables, legends, history and moral precepts recorded by man." This is the first time in Gallup's four-decade trend that biblical literalism has not surpassed biblical skepticism...

And that, in turn, may have consequences for where Americans come down on a number of morally tinged issues. The country may already be seeing this in growing public acceptance of a variety of behaviors that were once largely frowned on from a Christian perspective -- ranging from gay marriage and premarital sex to out-of-wedlock births and physician-assisted suicide.

<http://www.gallup.com/poll/210704/record-few-americans-believe-bible-literal-word->

[god.aspx?g_source=Social+Issues&g_medium=newsfeed&g_campaign=tiles](http://www.gallup.com/poll/210704/record-few-americans-believe-bible-literal-word-god.aspx?g_source=Social+Issues&g_medium=newsfeed&g_campaign=tiles)



- How do unsaved people get into Bible preaching churches?

2 Cor. 11:13 **For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.**

14 And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.**

15 **Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness;** whose end shall be according to their works.

- Some “believers” are NOT “born-again”



Jn. 8:30 As he spake these words, **many believed on him.** ...

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. ...

43 Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because **ye cannot hear my word.**

44 **Ye are of your father the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

III. THE PRACTICAL PREDICAMENT



A. The Potential Damage

Mt. 13:29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

B. The Permanent Damnation

Mt. 13:30 **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. ...



Mt. 13:41 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;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: **there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.**

43 **Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.** Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

IV. THE PERPLEXING PROBLEM

A. The Outward Delusion

Mt. 13:37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but **the tares are the children of the wicked one;**



B. The Inward Denial

2 Tim. 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 **Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:** from such turn away.

THE PARABLE OF THE



Wheat and Tares



13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse,
deceiving, and being deceived.

Rom 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ,
but their own belly; and **by good words and fair speeches**
deceive the hearts of the simple.

1 Cor. 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the
kingdom of God? **Be not deceived**: neither fornicators, nor idolaters,
nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with
mankind,

Gal. 6:7 **Be not deceived; God is not mocked**: for whatsoever
a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Jas. 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only,
deceiving your own selves.



C. The Upward Discernment

Psa. 1:6 For **the LORD knoweth** the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

2 Tim. 2:19 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.

Jn. 10:28 And **I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish**, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

1 Jn. 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.



Conclusion

Mt. 7:21 **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.

22 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?

23 And **then will I profess unto them, I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity.



Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

Eph. 2:8 For **by grace are ye saved through faith;** and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
9 **Not of works,** lest any man should boast.

Titus 3:5 **Not by works of righteousness which we have done,** but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;



1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*.

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and **the true light now shineth.**

9 **He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.**

10 **He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.**

