

Jesus' parable of the wheat and the weeds

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43







WHEAT: before it is fully ripe.



WEEDS : *Lolium Temulentum*



The cast of characters

- the man who sows
v 24
= the owner v 27
- Jesus the son of
man v 37

‘In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was **one like a son of man**, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.’ Daniel 7:13-14

The cast of characters

- the man who sows v 24
= the owner v 27
 - Jesus the son of man
v 37
 - Jesus is the
sower/owner v 41

The cast of characters

- the man who sows v 24
= the owner v 27
- the good seed v 24
= the wheat v 25
 - the 'people of the kingdom' v 38

The cast of characters

- the man who sows v 24
= the owner v 27
- the good seed v 24
= the wheat v 25
- the weeds and their sower v 25
 - the weeds = people belonging to the evil one v 39
 - the weed-sower = the devil v 39

The cast of characters

- the man who sows v 24
= the owner v 27
- the good seed – 24
= the wheat v 25
- the weeds and their
sower v 25
- **the owner is in control**
vv 30, 41
- the field v 24 = the
world v 38

The issue the servants face



WHEAT: before it is fully ripe.



WEEDS : *Lolium Temulentum*

The issue the servants face

- their suggestion to the owner v 28
- the owner's response v 29
- we cannot purge evil from the world in this age
 - God holds judgement back
 - 'The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.' 2 Peter 3:9

The issue the servants face

- their suggestion to the owner v 28
- the owner's response v 29
- we cannot purge evil from the world in this age
 - God holds judgement back
 - Jesus tells his disciples to pray for workers 9:37-38

The issue the servants face

- the field is the **world**, not the church
- Matthew 18:15-18
 - go to the individual v 15
 - take one or two others v 16
 - tell the church v 17a
 - treat them as an outsider v 17b




The owner's resolution

- let the wheat and weeds grow for now v 30a
- separate them at the harvest v 30b
 - the weeds are collected and burned
 - the wheat is gathered into the barn



The owner's resolution

- the harvest is the end of the age v 39b
- people of the evil one and causes of sin will be eliminated vv 41-42
- righteous people will be safe v 43



To take
away

- **rejoice** in our safety in Jesus' hands
- **recognise** that evil and spiritual warfare are real, but limited
- **realise** that judgement is up to God