

"THE 41 PARABLES OF JESUS CHRIST" 28 general and 13 kingdom of heaven parables Parable #7 - "THE TARES" <u>Matthew 13:24-30</u>; <u>Matthew 13:36-39,40-42</u> This 2nd of the 13 kingdom of heaven parables.

BACKGROUND:

In 445BC, with **one Bible week** equating to **seven years** (a prophetic year being 360 days), God commanded that **seventy weeks** each of **7 years**, would be determined upon Israel, that is ... **70 weeks** x **7 years** = **490 years** (<u>Daniel 9:24-27</u>).

This time frame is broken into **four** time periods of (a) **7 weeks +** (b) **62 weeks +** (c) the mystery church age of about 2,000 years **+** (d) **1 week = 70 weeks** and is explained as follows:

#1. **Seven** weeks of years is $7 \times 7 = 49$ years ... the time it takes to restore and build Jerusalem from 445BC to 396BC.

#2. Sixty two weeks of years is $62 \times 7 = 434$ years ... the time from the building of Jerusalem in 396BC to Christ being cut off at the cross in 32AD.

#3. The church age of approximately 2,000 years

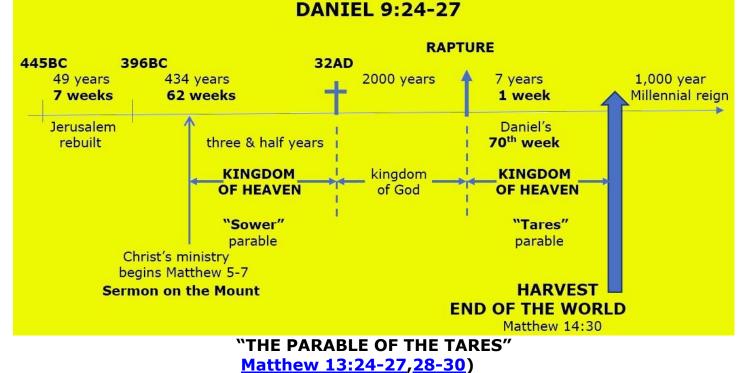
#4. **One week** of years is $1 \times 7 = 7$ years ... this is the seven years of tribulation of God's wrath upon the earth, that takes place after the rapture ... called **Daniel's 70th week**.

The following **Timeline** will help (not drawn to scale):

DANIEL 9:24-27

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city ... from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks ... after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off ... he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week

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"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 <u>**TIME OF HARVEST**</u> 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**." (Matthew13:24-27,28-

<u>30</u>)

The kingdom of heaven = Christ's ministry and the seven years of tribulation

A man = Christ the Son of man (<u>Matthew 13:37</u>)

The good seed = the children of the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 13:38)

The field = the world not just Israel (<u>Matthew 13:38</u>)

The enemy = the devil, the wicked one, Satan (<u>Matthew 13:39</u>)

The tares = children of the wicked one, Satan (Matthew 13:38)

The time of harvest = the end of the world at the end of the seven years of tribulation of Daniel's 70^{th} week (<u>Matthew 13:39</u>). This is Israel's final week of the kingdom of heaven on earth. This is **not** the kingdom of God time which finished at the rapture. This is the time of a rapture of Israel, and the world (<u>Matthew 24:40-41</u>), where angels will gather the good seed ... just before Armageddon and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 19).

The reapers = the angels (<u>Matthew 13:39</u>)

Barn = God's kingdom in heaven

Tares look like wheat when growing but at the time of harvest they are **proud** and **upright** because they have no grain on the end of their stalks ... no fruit. The good wheat is heavy with grain, bent over and **humble** and **worshipping** the Lord.

Israel has rejected Christ lest they hear and see (<u>Matthew 13:13</u>) and so they are **not** ready to hear about their eventual fate in the seven year tribulation ... but they are warned with this parable and indeed the other twelve kingdom parables ... making thirteen in all.

APPLICATION TO CHRISTIANS

The tares today are your pretend "Christians" proudly prancing around true Christian churches ... in the kingdom of God, as well.

The harvest for the Christian church will be the **rapture** ... in fact ... it will be a **`reverse harvest'** as it were.

The tall, proud and unsaved pretenders will **not** be harvested first, and will enter the seven years of tribulation.

It will be the bent over, humble and saved will be harvested **first** in the rapture. Unlike the tares in the tribulation, which are harvested first.

If you're still here after the reverse harvest of the rapture, you weren't a Christian ... you were a Catholic, an SDA, a Mormon, a follower of Christ, indeed someone who wanted to be like Christ or follow Christ ... but were not saved.

Easy to separate at the 'reverse harvest' of the rapture ... Christians will disappear first!

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