

# KINGDOM COME

## Take the Bad with the Good

Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-43

### THE KINGDOM OF GOD

God's kingdom is his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

God's kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_ here, but \_\_\_\_\_ complete.

### THE ALLEGORY

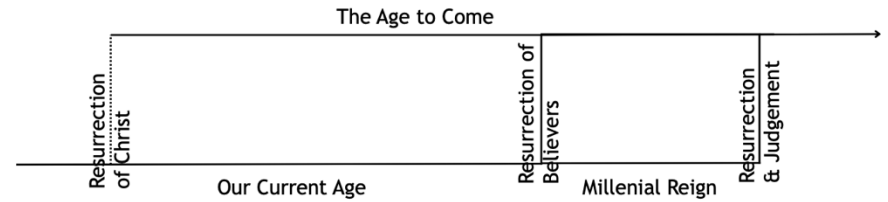
*“The **kingdom** of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.”*

Matthew 13:24-26

Most parables Jesus told have a singular, clear point.

Others - like this story - are more of an *allegory* with each element symbolizing something (Matthew 13:36-39):

- Farmer = \_\_\_\_\_
- Field = \_\_\_\_\_
- Wheat = People of the \_\_\_\_\_
- Weeds = People of the \_\_\_\_\_
- Enemy = \_\_\_\_\_
- Harvest = End of the \_\_\_\_\_
- Harvesters = \_\_\_\_\_



*“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age... Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the **kingdom** of their Father.”*

Matthew 13:40 & 43

### THE IN-BETWEEN

While we live in the in-between, we are to:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ for God's good.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ our part to bring God's good where evil exists.

#### Helpful Resources on the Kingdom of God:

- *Eternity is Now in Session*, John Ortberg \*
- *Matthew for Everyone*, N.T. Wright \*
- [desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-the-kingdom-of-god](https://desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-the-kingdom-of-god) \*
- *The Good News of the Kingdom*, George Eldon Ladd \*\*\*

#### Challenging Resources on the Kingdom of God & Politics:

- [thingmedia.com/topics/politics](https://thingmedia.com/topics/politics) \* (donate to access)
- [summitchurch.com/gospel-politics](https://summitchurch.com/gospel-politics) \*
- *Exiles*, Preston Sprinkle \*\*
- *Jesus and the Powers*, N.T. Wright & Michael Bird \*\*\*
- *If You Can Keep It*, Eric Metaxas \*\*

\*Anyone

\*\*Intermediate

\*\*\*Advanced

# KINGDOM COME: Take the Bad with the Good

Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-43

Questions based on the sermon from October 13, 2024

## Getting to Know Me

1. Share a high and low of your past week.
2. When is a time that you saw good and bad mixed together?

## Digging Deeper

3. What stood out to encourage or challenge you in Sunday's sermon? What do you want to explore more?
4. Give a quick summation of last week's Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-9 & 18-23). What did the seed and soils represent?
5. Now consider what happens in the Parable of the Weeds (Matt. 13:24-30) and what Jesus says each element represents (Matt. 13:37-39)?
  - Farmer:
  - Field:
  - Wheat:
  - Weeds:
  - Enemy:
  - Harvest:
  - Harvesters:
6. Compare and contrast the Parable of the Sower with the Parable of the Weeds.

7. What does Jesus say will happen to the weeds and the wheat at "the end of the age" (Matt. 13:40-43)?
8. If God could come in full at any time, why do you think he allows weeds to live among the wheat? Consider 2 Peter 3:8-9.
9. We all have so many questions about the end, Christ's return, his future reign, heaven and hell... What do the scriptures teach us about all of this?
  - 2 Peter 3:10-13 –
  - Revelation 20:1-21:8 –

## Making it Personal

10. What's your reaction to Jesus talking about the evil one? What rises up in you when you hear this parable about evil at work?
11. Given all that Jesus says about the wheat and the weeds, how do you think we can live as "wheat among weeds" in our cultural moment?
12. How are you beginning to understand God's kingdom in new ways through this series? What difference is it making in your daily life?

## Prayer

Jesus ends both parables with, "He who has ears, let him hear." Take a few minutes and pray for each other that we would be hearers and live deeply rooted wheat in His Kingdom!

# KINGDOM COME

## Take the Bad with the Good

Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-43

### THE KINGDOM OF GOD

God's kingdom is his rule and reign.

God's kingdom is already here, but not-yet complete.

### THE ALLEGORY

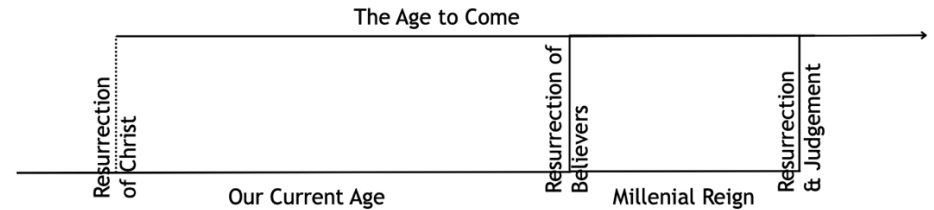
*“The **kingdom** of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.”*

Matthew 13:24-26

Most parables Jesus told have a singular, clear point.

Others - like this story - are more of an *allegory* with each element symbolizing something (Matthew 13:36-39):

- Farmer = Jesus
- Field = World
- Wheat = People of the kingdom
- Weeds = People of the evil one
- Enemy = Devil
- Harvest = End of the age
- Harvesters = Angels



*“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age... Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the **kingdom** of their Father.”*

Matthew 13:40 & 43

### THE IN-BETWEEN

While we live in the in-between, we are to:

1. Pray for God's good.
2. Play our part to bring God's good where evil exists.

#### Helpful Resources on the Kingdom of God:

- *Eternity is Now in Session*, John Ortberg \*
- *Matthew for Everyone*, N.T. Wright \*
- [desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-the-kingdom-of-god](https://desiringgod.org/interviews/what-is-the-kingdom-of-god) \*
- *The Good News of the Kingdom*, George Eldon Ladd \*\*\*

#### Challenging Resources on the Kingdom of God & Politics:

- [thingmedia.com/topics/politics](https://thingmedia.com/topics/politics) \* (donate to access)
- [summitchurch.com/gospel-politics](https://summitchurch.com/gospel-politics) \*
- *Exiles*, Preston Sprinkle \*\*
- *Jesus and the Powers*, N.T. Wright & Michael Bird \*\*\*
- *If You Can Keep It*, Eric Metaxas \*\*

\*Anyone

\*\*Intermediate

\*\*\*Advanced