**Bible/College Class Notes – *Studies in Matthew* – Lesson 135**

**The Saviour Comes and Begins His Work**

**This week** – The Lord gives us a Christian view of this world. and its’ greatest problem - sin. **NOTES**

**Aim - To learn how God, our Creator, views our world and us. To understand the importance and urgency of seeking and finding the Saviour before it is too late. Now is the Day of Salvation.**

**Jesus said, “He that soweth the good seed is the Son of Man (Jesus), The field is the world.”** ***Matthew 13v37,38***

**The Parable of The Wheat and the Tares (Weeds).**

In This Parable The Lord gives us His Divine assessment of our planet; the history of the human race –

from earliest times, its problems, and its end.

One day God will, at His predetermined time,

bring the world to an end.

He is concerned about how we live before Him.

**Obediently, or rebelliously.**

**The Meaning of The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares.**

The farmer sows good seed in his field;

At night an enemy sows tares (weeds).

The farmer says,

***‘Leave the tares to grow with the wheat, wait until harvest’.***

**The Farmer and The Field.**

**The farmer is God the Son, the Lord Jesus.**

**The field is the world.**

**This world belongs to God;**

He is the Creator of all things, including man. Genesis 1.

**The world does not belong to us;**

we were created by God to love, obey, and serve Him.

**The Enemy** – Something has gone badly wrong.

We notice selfishness, war, famine, suffering, murder, greed, cheating, pride, lust, lies, and injustices.

The Lord Jesus says, ***“An enemy has done this”.*** Matthew 13v28.

**2**

**Satan’s aim is to sabotage God’s work.**

**He tried this in the Garden of Eden.**

 **He said to Eve and Adam. *“Hath God said?”* Gen 3v1**

**He says the same to us.**

 **When our consciences are troubled by our sin**

 **He says to us, “Don’t worry, you are OK.”**

 **“There is go God, No eternity, No Judgment of Sin.”**

 **“No need to read and believe the Bible.”**

Hi aim is to sabotage your soul by seeking to keep you in unbelief

and rebellion against God. **To keep you out of Heaven.**

He says to you and your conscience – God will not pnish your sin

**Satan has invented all sorts of religions**

and philosophies to lure people away

from believing in the one, true God,

and the only way of Salvation.

He sows the **‘tares’** of sin, and we see the result of sin growing,

both in our hearts and in the world.

He is responsible for all the chaos, sadness, hatred, and war

as people kick against God.

**The Good Seed** – Believers.

 Those who have repented and believe that

the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross to save them.

 Taking their place in God’s Holy Wrath for si.

**The Tares** – Unbelievers and Their Sin.

 Those who reject God’s gracious offer of forgiveness.

**Believers and unbelievers co-exist together,**

awaiting God’s ‘harvest time’.

**God’s Plan** – To Leave the Tares Until Harvest Time,

**Then Destroy Them.**

**Why?** Today is God’s Day of Grace;

He waits for sinners to repent.

Do not be alarmed if you see unbelievers flourishing –

often weeds dominate a garden.

**Consider. If God were to root out all the unbelievers now**

**would you be among them?**

**3**

**The Day of Harvest**. The Day of Separation. The End of Time.

The Lord has warned that time will end.

The **‘Day of Harvest'** is coming;

God will divide believers into one group,

and unbelievers into another.

All those who have trusted in Christ’s death on Calvary

for the forgiveness of their sins will be gathered into Heaven,

to enjoy God for ever.

Unbelievers will suffer the eternal wrath of God.

As if in a burning fire.

Do not delay. Come to the Saviour now.

**Today is The Day of Salvation.**

Are your sins forgiven? Are you looking forward to God’s Harvest-time?

**The Apostle Peter wrote*, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”***

**2 Peter 3v8.**

**Important Thought for us Today:**

**How much time do we have left?**

(See Matthew 24, especially verses 3-7, 31-51).

**We do not know when the end of time will come,**

but it certainly will, for God has warned us to be ready for it.

It gets nearer each day that passes by.

**God has declared that the Lord Jesus will return**

to gather in those who have repented and believed;

that He will judge all who have ever lived.

**Those He has saved will be seen as righteous**

**and be welcomed into Heaven.**

**But those who have remained in disobedient unbelief**

**will be judged for their sin, and the Lord will say,**

***‘Depart from Me, for I never knew you’.* Matthew 25v41.**

**4**

**Longsuffering is an attribute of God’s mercy.**

He is holy and has every right to be angry with our sin and rebellion.

He has declared that sin must be punished

and yet He is also merciful and slow to anger.

He loves us, but not our sin.

His wonderful love is shown by His sending His own beloved Son,

Jesus Christ, to live as a Man amongst us, yet without sin.

Out of unmerited love, He took upon Himself God’s awesome wrath

that we fully deserve. (John 3v16).

**In mercy. He says to us,**

***‘Behold, now is the Day of Salvation’***, 2 Corinthians 6v2.

**The LORD is able and willing to save and forgive you.**

 **Come now, while there is time, do not wait.**