Planted with a Purpose Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Opening: In our previous bible studies, we had several topical discussions on the theme: "a kingdom of priests" **(Exodus 19:6).** As we went through the lessons we discovered a main point: God desires to have heaven on earth. The significance of this is, that God dwells in the praises of His people. So where His people are, so is He.

As we dive into the parable of the seed, we will discover 3 things, how God began this process, what to look out for, and the outcome for being a part of His plan.

I. <u>You are Good Seed-</u> Planted in the soil of the earth *(culture, traditions, environment)*

The Bible says: 24 Another parable set he before them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man that sowed good seed in his field:

Jesus explains: *37 And he answered and said, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 and the field is the world; and the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; (people rooted/anchored in kingdom principles)*

- Your are good (heart, mind, words, action). We are not perfect, but we are good.
- You contain gifts and callings (*fishing bait to draw people near*)
- You produce fruit: people know alot about you by the fruit you bear. (*encouragement, healing, prayer, a listening ear*)

II. <u>Beware of the Tear-</u> The devil's plan to sabotage (*you are not your surroundings*)

The Bible says: 25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed [<u>a</u>] tares also among the wheat, and went away. 26 But when the blade sprang up and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

Jesus explains: and the tares are the sons of the evil one; **39** and the enemy that sowed them is the devil:

- Evil and confusion are all around you (separate your actions from the tears)
- As you grow, so do your problems (new levels, new devils)
- Be of good cheer (John 16:32-33) 32 Behold, an hour is coming, and has already come, for you to be scattered, each to his own home, and to leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. 33 These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

III. Know where you're going- Heaven and Hell (depends on how you act) **The Bible says: 27** And the [b] servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst thou not sow good seed in thy field? whence then hath it tares? **28** And he said unto them, [c] An enemy hath done this. And the [d] servants say unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? **29** But he saith, Nay; lest haply while ye gather up the tares, ye root up the wheat with them. **30** Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather up first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn. **Jesus explains:** 40 As therefore the tares are gathered up and burned with fire; so shall it be in [b] the end of the world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that cause stumbling, and them that do iniquity, 42 and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He that hath ears, [c] let him hear.

- God allows the tear (heavenly test)
- We should be blessing people with our gifts and callings (not fault finders)
- When we join together and use the gifts God gave us. We bless the city, good seed has taken over, and we experience heaven on earth.

Closing: Colossians 3:23-24 (employed by God)

Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.