

FBC POWELL, 5-4-08 PM NOTES
"THE PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM" PART 2
MATTHEW 13:24-43
(#52 in Series, "Verse by Verse through Matthew")

Matthew 13:11 (NKJV) "He answered and said to them, 'Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.'"

Christendom—All who profess to be under Christ's rule (kingdom) during the time between His first and second coming.

"These parables alert us to strategies that Satan has been using to hinder the work of God in this seed-sowing age between the time of Christ's first coming and His coming again."

—James Montgomery Boice

I. The Wheat and the Tares (vv. 24-30; 36-43)

"We must beware of Satan's counterfeits. He has counterfeit Christians (2 Corinthians 11:26) who believe a counterfeit gospel (Galatians 1:6-9). He encourages a counterfeit righteousness (Romans 10:1-3) and even has a counterfeit church (Revelation 2:9). At the end of the age, he will produce a counterfeit Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:1-12)."

—Warren Weirsbe

A. Two Planters (vv. 24-25; 36-38a; 39a)

John 10:28 (NKJV) "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."

B. Two Plants (vv. 26; 38b)

C. Two Plans (vv. 27-30a; 39b)

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NKJV) "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified."

D. Two Prospects (vv. 30b; 40-43)

II. The Mustard Seed (vv. 31-32)

“All these parables show the growth of evil, and are prophecies extending over the entire age in which we live.”

—Arno Gaebelein

Revelation 18:2 (NKJV) “And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!’”

Trees in the Old Testament often symbolize world power (Daniel 4:12; Ezekiel 17:23).

III. The Leaven (v. 33)

Jesus used the concept of leaven in the New Testament to picture **hypocrisy** in Luke 12:1, **false teaching** in Matthew 16:6-12, and **worldly compromise** in Matthew 22:16-21. Paul used leaven to picture **carnality** in the church in 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, and **false doctrine** in Galatians 5:9.