

Bible Study Thought-Provoking Questions

The purpose of the questions is to facilitate a deeper understanding of the Bible, this Bible study topic, and ourselves. The questions may be answered by each reader, or used by a Bible study group leader or church pastor.

The questions are designed to enhance learning by discovering and solidifying personal beliefs and opinions. As such, no answers are provided.

First read the following scripture:

The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares

"Another parable He put forth to them, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, 'First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Matthew 13:24-30

The Parable of the Tares Explained

"Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field. He answered and said to them: 'He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Matthew 13:36-43

Note: Tares (grown from the darnel seed) is a weed grass that looks like (and grows amongst) wheat. Darnel seeds are poisonous and mind-altering; and can cause nausea, dizziness and other toxic effects, including death.

Questions

- Who is spiritually responsible for sowing wheat seeds and tare seeds?
- Opes the coexistence of wheat and tares spiritually exemplify what has occurred throughout time? Explain.
- Is it possible to correlate the consumption of darnel seeds to the consequences of sin? Explain.
- Why do you think the owner (God) wants the tares to remain until the harvest?
 - o If Satan's influence upon earth is removed and there are no more tares...to what degree would we still:
 - Need to place our faith in Jesus?
 - Love God?
 - Does God use Satan and his minions to accomplish His will upon earth? Explain.
- © Click the hyperlink to read 7 verses on overcoming: (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 26; Rev. 3:5, 12, 21).
 - O What does it mean to overcome?
 - O What are the eternal benefits that Jesus declared are for those who overcome?
- © Click the hyperlink to read (Revelation 20: 11-15). What are the eternal consequences for the "tares."
- What is the most important thing you have learned from this lesson?

