

# The Seed Is Good

## Introduction

Scripture Reading: **Acts 2:14-36**

Matthew 13:27 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?'

1. **On this day, in most churches in our land, there are special things planned.**
  - A. **Many are holding special services that are loaded with all kinds of enticing things:**
    - 1) **Sunrise service.**
    - 2) **Casual “contemporary” service.**
    - 3) **Concerts, parties, egg hunts, pot-luck dinners, and much, much more.**
  - B. **All these things are meant to entice and draw people in.**
    - 1) **These things happen not only on “Easter Sunday” but all through the year.**
    - 2) **Unfortunately, in the Lord’s church we find some brethren who are carried away with many of these same denominational enticements.**
      - a. **They feel some inducement to get people to come to services.**
2. **Isn’t the plain, inspired word of God good enough?**

## Did You Not Sow Good Seed?

1. This is the parable of the tares. The landowner explains that the seed was good and did not produce bad plants.
  - A. “An enemy has done this!” (v.28)
2. The parable of the “seed” and “sower” proves the same thing.  
**Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23**
  - A. The seed itself is good; it’s the condition of the ground that either promotes or hinders its growth.
3. Is the Word of God (the seed) good enough to draw one’s heart to God the Father?
  - A. To the religious world at large and unsound churches of Christ, the answer is obviously “no” as they seek numerous ways to try to “market” their religious beliefs to the world.
  - B. Some of the problem is that when a church uses worldly lures to attract people toward a spiritual message, then you’ll just end up with non-spiritual worldly people.
    - 1) When the lures run out or are stopped, then the people that were drawn in by those things will leave.

## How Christians Are Made

### Matthew 28:18-20

1. How did this work?
2. People were given a message from God that convicted them of sin.
  - A. This is what the Holy Spirit was sent to do. This was and is His work.

John 16:8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

- 1) Part of this message, in the early days, was authenticating the message with various miracles and gifts.
  - 2) His work was convincing the sinner of the truths regarding Jesus by exposing and convicting him of his sin so that he could recognize it and repent!
- B. Examples of the Spirit's work:
- 1) The Jews on Pentecost.  
**Acts 2:14-36**
    - a. These people were not enticed to come hear the message by worldly means.
    - b. The word of God was forcefully preached in order to convict them of their sin – to make a decision.  
**Acts 2:37-40**

**2) Felix****Acts 24:24-26**

- a. Paul was not there to just make conversation and try to get Felix to have a more positive attitude.
- b. He was there to tell him about Jesus and his need to be saved. What failed? The seed or Felix?

**3) Jesus was preached.****Acts 8:4-5, 12**

- a. **The Samaritans:** The very simple preaching, the word of God, was enough to prompt these Samaritans to make the right decision.

**Acts 8:25-40**

- b. **The Eunuch:** The Eunuch did not need a concert to entice him to listen, he needed to hear about Jesus Christ and Him crucified!

**C. People were moved by the teaching of God's Word to make a decision concerning their soul.**

- 1) Lydia – **Acts 16:11-15**
- 2) Philippian Jailor: – **Acts 16:29-33**
- 3) The Corinthians: – **Acts 18:5-8**

**D. None of these conversions were moved by “mood lighting” or some “emotional dramatic play.”**

- 1) In every case they were moved by godly sorrow to respond to the gospel message by obeying it and repenting of their sins and being baptized for the forgiveness of their sins.

## The Gospel Being Preached

1. **ONLY** the gospel is preached to man. Jesus spoke plainly about how men would be drawn to Him in true conversion.

John 6:44-45 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT BY GOD.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

2. **Gospel preaching is VERY powerful because ONLY the gospel can produce:**
  - A. **Salvation:**
    - Romans 1:16**
    - 1 Corinthians 1:18**
  - B. **Reconciliation and hope:**
    - Colossians 1:21-23**
  - C. **Spiritual maturity:**
    - Acts 20:32** – “I commend you...”
  - D. **Sufficiency:**
    - 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

**3. This is why it is so vitally important for all preachers to preach THE gospel of Jesus Christ fully and completely. Nothing more and nothing less!**

1 Corinthians 9:16 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, **woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!**

**A. It is truly sad that too many preachers seem to want to be showmen, telling cute stories, emphasizing anything and everything except the gospel of Christ to allow the Holy Spirit to convict men of sin!**

**1) There is a time for illustrations (Jesus used them), and even humor at times, but a preacher must never lose sight of what his main objective is – to teach others the Word of God.**

2 Timothy 4:2-5 **Preach the word!** Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. **But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.**

## What “Business” Are We In?

1. It is unfortunate that far too many Christians have forgotten or perhaps have never really understood what they are here for.

A. We need to understand what kind of “Business” we are in:

1) Is it the entertainment, recreation, or the soul-saving business?

1 Timothy 3:15 but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

2. Their zeal is to be commended, but unfortunately it’s misplaced.

Romans 10:1-3 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

## Conclusion

1. Too many brethren have followed the demons and have lost focus on what we’re really all about. They seek to attract, using every means possible except the pure gospel message of Christ!

2. Entertainment, food, social programs, recreation of every way imaginable abound. Where is the word of God that saves souls?

3. The “Seed is good.” To an honest heart it will take root, blossom, and mature into a faithful child of God.

**HEAVEN — Don’t Miss It For The World!**

