

COL Ch. 10 "THE NET"

Matthew 13:47-50

1. Why does Jesus use the parable of "The Net"?

Many classes of people came to listen to Jesus and by using many different parables He was able to teach life saving truths to many minds.

2. What is suggested by "gathered of every kind"? The wheat and the tares

3. How would you grow tares and the wheat?

Matthew Henry Commentary "So prone is fallen man to sin, that if the enemy sow the tares, he may go his way, they will spring up, and do hurt; whereas, when good seed is sown, it must be tended, watered, and fenced."

4. Can tares become wheat and can wheat become tares? {Be careful how you answer this question}

Matthew 13:29 "But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them."

Upward Look 35.3 "...**Christ knew that he {Judas} did not receive the truth.** He did not eat the truth. It did not become a part of himself. His old habits and practices constantly sought to assert themselves."

Upward Look 35.3 "All who are trying to do true service to God will be brought into perplexity. But do not think of failure. Do not talk of discouragement. Let all be united in doing the will of our heavenly Father... **If we are Christians, we cannot follow the world's policy...**"

5. On page 122.1 who is gathering the good into the vessels and casting the bad away and when does it happen?

Revelation 7:2-3, 14:13-20

The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind; which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.

6. When will the just be severed from the wicked?

So shall it be at the end of the world: **the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.** {COL 122.1}

7. How do we become the just?

Hebrews 10:38 "Now the just shall live by faith..."

1SM 366.2 "In order for man to be justified by faith, faith must reach a point where it will control the affections and impulses of the heart; and it is by obedience that faith itself is made perfect."

Story about Abraham and Isaac

The casting of the net is the preaching of the gospel. This gathers both good and evil into the church.

8. When will the mission of the gospel be completed? Matthew 24:14

When the mission of the gospel is completed, the judgment will accomplish the work of separation. Christ saw how the existence of false brethren in the church would cause the way of truth to be evil spoken of. The world would revile the gospel because of the inconsistent lives of false professors. Even Christians would be caused to stumble as they saw that many who bore Christ's name were not controlled by His Spirit. Because these sinners were in the church, men would be in danger of thinking that God excused their sins. Therefore Christ lifts the veil from the future and bids all to behold that it is character, not position, which decides man's destiny. {COL 122.2}

Both the parable of the tares and that of the net plainly teach that there is no time when all the wicked will turn to God. The wheat and the tares grow together until the harvest. The good and the bad fish are together drawn ashore for a final separation. {COL 123.1}

9. How does someone become wheat?

Acts 16:31 "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ & thou shalt be saved"

James 2:19 "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."

10. What does it mean to believe?

1 John 2:6 "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. "

Lt120-1898.12 " Our lives must be just what God designs they shall be— faithful in good works, in kind and thoughtful deeds, in the expression of meekness, purity, and love. Thus we represent Christ to the world. On our own peculiar phase of character, whatever it may be, Christ can imprint His own image if we will allow Him to do this. "

11. What do these parables teach us?

Again, these parables teach that there is to be no probation after the judgment. When the work of the gospel is completed, there immediately

follows the separation between the good and the evil, and the destiny of each class is forever fixed. {COL 123.2}

12. Does God desire people to be wicked and go to hell?

God does not desire the destruction of any. "As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?" {Ezekiel 33:11}..."

13. What does it mean to "turn ye from your evil ways"?

Matthew 16:24 "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

Lt48-1897.29 "We cannot afford to barter away our birthright for a mess of pottage. If we do this, we lose life, eternal life, to secure a treasure that will perish in the using. Shall we not hear the voice of our Redeemer, saying..."

Lt48-1897.30 "In obeying the Word of God, we find righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. This the humble, persevering Christian can and will have. It is God's eternal covenant with those who do His commandments."

Throughout the period of probationary time His Spirit is entreating men to accept the gift of life. It is only those who reject His pleading that will be left to perish. God has declared that sin must be destroyed as an evil ruinous to the universe. Those who cling to sin will perish in its destruction. {COL 123.3}

