

August 4–10
Doctrine and Covenants 85–87
“Stand Ye In Holy Places”



Matthew 13:24-30

24) Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25) But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26) But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

27) So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

28) He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

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

30) Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 13:36-43

36) Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.

37) He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

38) The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39) The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

40) As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

41) The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

42) And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

43) Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

1. The man sowing seed is the Son of Man (Jesus).
2. The field is the world.
3. The good seed are the children of the kingdom (followers of Jesus).
4. The tares are children of the wicked one
5. The enemy is the devil.
6. The harvest is the end of the world.
7. The reapers are the angels sent to reap the field.
8. The tares bound and burned are the evil ones separated out and cast into fire (punishment) at the Judgment.
9. The wheat gathered into the barn represents the righteous who are separated out and made to “shine forth” in the kingdom of the Father.

The Wheat and the Tares

D&C 86:1-7

What is the timeframe of the two different “sowings” given in these verses?

During the meridian of time, what “[drove] the church into the wilderness”?

What else do you think is clarified in these verses?

Joseph Fielding Smith

“The sowing of the seed occurred twice, once by our Lord and His Apostles at the time of His ministry. The wicked one sowed the tares, and drove the Church into the wilderness. That has reference to the apostasy. Then again in this, our day, when the Gospel is again restored, this same thing is repeated. The good seed is sowed. The wicked one comes along and sows the tares, and the angels are now waiting, pleading with the Lord to reap down the earth.” (Signs of the Times, pg. 93)

Neal A. Maxwell

“Years ago, I wondered over the scriptural imagery of angels waiting ‘day and night’ for ‘the great command’ to come down and reap the tares in a wicked and suffering world; it seemed rather eager to me. Given such massive, needless human suffering, I don’t wonder anymore!

“Even so, the final reaping will occur only when the Father determines that the world is ‘fully ripe.’ Meanwhile, brothers and sisters, the challenge is surviving spiritually in a deteriorating ‘wheat and tares’ world.” (CR, April 1993)

Revelation and Prophecy on War

D&C 87:1-4

Which parts of this revelation do you think have been fulfilled and which do you think are still being fulfilled?

Joseph L. Wirthlin

“The Prophet Joseph gave us this marvelous revelation in 1832. The Civil War came in 1861; the war between Denmark and Prussia in 1864; Italy and Austria in 1865 and 1866; Austria and Prussia in 1866; Russia and Turkey in 1877; China and Japan in 1894 and 1895; Spanish-American in 1898; Japan and Russia in 1904 and 1905; World War I from 1914 to 1918;... Ethiopia and Italy [in 1937].... Then, the World War just passed and, of course, the Korean War.

“These nations of Russia, China, Korea, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Arabia, Lebanon—all of these nations are now in an attitude of war of some kind.” (CR, Oct. 1958)

Revelation and Prophecy on War

D&C 87:5

Do you think this prophecy has been fulfilled, is being fulfilled, or has yet to be fulfilled?

Joseph Fielding Smith

“There are millions of the ‘remnant’ in Mexico, Central and South America. It was during our Civil War that the [Mexicans] up and gained their freedom from the tyranny which Napoleon endeavored to inflict upon them.... The independence of Mexico and other nations to the south has been accomplished by the uprising of the ‘remnant’ upon the land. However, let us not think that this prophecy has completely been fulfilled.”
(Church History and Modern Revelation, 1:363)

Revelation and Prophecy on War

D&C 87:6-8

What do you think the Lord means when He admonishes us to “stand ye in holy places, and be not moved”?

Ezra Taft Benson

"We will live in the midst of economic, political, and spiritual instability. When these signs are observed—unmistakable evidences that His coming is nigh—we need not be troubled, but 'stand... in holy places, and be not moved, until the day of the Lord come.'

"Holy men and women stand in holy places, and these holy places consist of our temples, our chapels, our homes, and the stakes of Zion, which are, as the Lord declares, 'for a defense, and for a refuge from the storm, and from wrath when it shall be poured out without mixture upon the whole earth.' (D&C 115:6) We must heed the Lord's counsel to the Saints of this dispensation: 'Prepare yourselves for the great day of the Lord' (D&C 133:10)." (Come unto Christ, pg. 115-6)

Next Week:

August 11–17

Doctrine and Covenants 88

“Establish... a House of God”

