



“DON’T FALL ASLEEP”

THE WHEAT & THE TARES PART 8

PASTOR GRANT WILLIAMS

Matthew 13:24-30 AMPC

24 Another parable He set forth before them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field.

25 But while he was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed also darnel (weeds resembling wheat) among the wheat, and went on his way.

26 So when the plants sprouted and formed grain, the darnel (weeds) appeared also.

27 And the servants of the owner came to him and said, Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Then how does it have darnel shoots in it?

28 He replied to them, An enemy has done this. The servants said to him, Then do you want us to go and weed them out?

29 But he said, No, lest in gathering the wild wheat (weeds resembling wheat), you root up the [true] wheat along with it.

30 Let them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will say to the reapers, Gather the darnel first and bind it in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my granary.

Note: _____

Jesus told us that we are to stay going to “church” or hearing the preaching and teaching of God’s Word gathered together with the tares or darnel/weeds.

His Word tells us to watch our close associations or be on guard because bad company spoils good character, hangout out with stupid or unrighteous people and you will be ruined. Paul told us not to even eat with someone who calls themselves a brother or sister in Christ or a follower of Jesus Christ and continues to commit sin... it’s all throughout the Old and New Testament.

We are told by Jesus Himself to continue to read the Word, believe the Word, act on the Word and listen to preaching and teaching about the Word or the TRUTH without things being added or deleted (twisted).

This is Peter telling the church how to be ready when Jesus returns...

2 Peter 1:1-4 AMPC

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

2 May grace (God’s favor) and peace (which is perfect well-being, all necessary good, all spiritual prosperity, and freedom from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts) be multiplied to you in [the full, personal, precise, and correct] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

3 For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).

4 By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.

Note: _____

When you hear the word righteous or righteousness – what word or words quickly pop into your head? Just, moral, honorable, honest, etc...

Righteousness is: a right standing with God or doing what is right in the sight of God according to HIS WORD. This is speaking about divine nature, a nature change. Having the nature of God and doing what He said we can do take a hold of us and be us. Righteousness will give us the ability to stand before God without guilt shame, condemnation or any sense of unworthiness. These are instructions that will keep us from becoming a tare or darnel at harvest time.

The word of God tells us in Proverbs chapter 28...

Proverbs 28:1 KJV

1...but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Why are they bold?

2 Peter 1:1-4 AMPC

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle (special messenger) of Jesus Christ, to those who have received (obtained an equal privilege of) like precious faith with ourselves in and through the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

When we learn thru the preaching, teaching and studying of God's Word about righteousness (right standing) of God it will increase our faith.

Romans 10:17 KJV

17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

James 2:26 AMPC

26 For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, so faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.

When we do what is right or righteous it shows a divine nature change and it gives us this faith that comes to us and flows through us without us having to work it up. This faith will start to become a natural part of this righteousness package.

I have seen many people trying to obtain faith (wishful thinking) and use their faith (wishful thinking or positive thoughts/vibes) but they became weak in their faith, they start to doubt, it's just wasn't working. Righteousness is the key, there needs to be righteousness as a base for that faith to operate. Righteousness is the foundation or platform that our faith is built on. His Word is what is Right or Righteous.

We can't operate in faith when we still have guilt, shame and sin or ignorance to the Word of God.

Lets go to verse 3 of 2 Peter chapter 1...

2 Peter 1:3 AMPC

3 For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue).

When you look at your past, satan's most powerful weapon is ignorance. The first thing that God gave Adam was protection- HE said "Adam, don't eat of this tree." Now this was information for Adam, and this information set up a boundary for what Adam was to do and how to conduct his behavior.

Genesis 2:17 KJV

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Genesis 2:17 AMPC

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and blessing and calamity you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

Satan came to sew seeds of distrust. He said to Eve, did God really say that?

Genesis 3:1 AMPC

3 Now the serpent was more subtle and crafty than any living creature of the field which the Lord God had made. And he [Satan] said to the woman, Can it really be that God has said, You shall not eat from every tree of the garden?

Seeds of doubt were sewn in those words. She was deceived and gave that to Adam which he did eat of the forbidden fruit and next thing you know, everything fell. **Toil, worry anxiousness, not trusting, not believing just came upon them.**

Until we come to know God through faith in Christ (The Word) and begin to obey HIS WORD we still remain in the same darkness that Adam fell into. The darkness which I'm talking about is **spiritual darkness or spiritual ignorance.**

In order to be righteous (right standing) we need knowledge, What kind of knowledge is this? This knowledge has to do with knowledge on a much higher level than we get through the normal education system.

John 8:30-33 AMPC

30 As He said these things, many believed in Him [trusted, relied on, and adhered to Him].

31 So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in Him, If you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples.

32 And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free.

33 They answered Him, We are Abraham's offspring (descendants) and have never been in bondage to anybody. What do You mean by saying, You will be set free?

These particular people were under Roman occupation. The Romans were telling them what to do. They were running the Babylonian system, the world system independent of God. They are telling Jesus, “we were never in bondage to anybody” but, they were supposed to be the head and now they are the tail in their thinking and acting.

Deuteronomy 28:13 KJV

*13 And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; **if** that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:*

Deuteronomy 28:13 ESV

13 And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail, and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them,

They tell Jesus we aren't in bondage: we act like the world, take like the world, are in fear like the world, anxious just like the world, sin just like the world, are not obedient to your commands... It's interesting how the enemy can deceive people who have no spiritual sight and knowledge. They think sense they have stuff: job, cars, house, 401k, retirement plan, money in the bank, that they aren't in bondage.

John 8:36 KJV

36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

What I'm saying is, until we come to know God through faith in Christ and begin to obey (do, take action) HIS WORD, we remain in darkness or spiritual ignorance. When I say information absent of God, I am talking about knowledge not enlightened by the Truth of God's Word is **dark knowledge**.

This is what Jesus said in Matthew chapter 6...

Matthew 6:23-24 AMPC

23 But if your eye is unsound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the very light in you [your conscience] is darkened, how dense is that darkness!

24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will stand by and be devoted to the one and despise and be against the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (deceitful riches, money, possessions, or whatever is trusted in).

John 1:5 KJV

5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

John 1:5 AMPC

5 And the Light shines on in the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it [put it out or absorbed it or appropriated it, and is unreceptive to it].

The darkness couldn't comprehend or understand the light or the Truth.

John 8:12 KJV

12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

You can have a bachelors degree, master's degree or a phd, but without the Lord, all of this is dark information. Follow me now...don't get mad at me... "the truth shall set you free."

If I'm on the Titanic, does everyone know what I'm talking about? What is the Titanic famous for? It sunk. Everyone on that ship felt it was the best, most well built ship to ever be on the water. But it sunk... they were on the ship having a good time: dancing, partying, but that didn't make any difference because in time it was going down and they were going down with it.

With dark knowledge it's still going down. The only thing that dark knowledge does is help you get through this dark world. But the knowledge of God gives you the ability to dominate the dark world and when this ship goes down, which it is - the Bible says it is, you will stay afloat because your ship won't sink.

Satan tries to filter out the light, he doesn't want the Bibles in the schools or in the church, prayer in schools, ten commandments on government buildings, marriage between just a man and a woman. He doesn't want people to come to a Bible believing church so he deceives pastors into watering down the Word and speak to itching ears.

The greatest weapon that Satan has is ignorance. If he can keep you spiritually ignorant he's doesn't have to worry about you. So, we have to renew our minds, every day !

Hosea 4:6 KJV

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Proverbs 14:12 KJV

12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

It seems right, and there's nothing wrong with education. But the whole idea of education is designed to draw something out of you. Your gifting(s) are already in you.

What education does and is designed to do is draw that gifting out of you...When I plant an acorn, everything is already in it. The branches are in it, the leaves are in it, more acorns are in it. Everything is already in you. God has already downloaded it into you. Even before the foundation of the world, HE downloaded it in you. It's in you right now.

That why the enemy wants to keep you provision minded (toiling), he wants you to keep chasing money all the time. Because when you chase money all the time, the gifts and talents of God go untapped and they go undeveloped. Why?

Because you can't serve 2 masters, you either run after Gods way of living or the devils way of living stuff which is the worlds way. You can't run after 2 different things, you run after money and the enemy will try to lead you away from that which is gifted that will give you a platform to speak to people that you never have had before.

You and I were children of darkness until we were "Born Again", then we became the children of light. Once we become the children of light, God will send us into the places of darkness so that you and I can bring the light.

When God's people were in Egypt the Bible says in Exodus the Israelites sat by the flesh pots (that's where they got their food). They ate slave food or in today's vernacular - they ate vegetables.

Then when they went into the wilderness, notice God changed their diets. If you want to go further with God, you are going to have to change diets.

You and I need to hear something more than we've heard before. We need to eat something different than we ever have before – you have to change diets - it's Harvest time. God's People first switched to manna in the wilderness then when they went to Canaan it got cut off in Joshua chapter 5 and now the were on fruit.

If you want to go higher, it's my job to feed you on a higher level and it's your job to start eating at a higher level. Tonight, we are going to start eating at a higher level. At this level you are going to have to do a little more chewing, it's time to get off of the milk and onto the meat of the Word.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 AMPC

1 However, brethren, I could not talk to you as to spiritual [men], but as to nonspiritual [men of the flesh, in whom the carnal nature predominates], as to mere infants [in the new life] in Christ [[a]unable to talk yet!]

2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not yet strong enough [to be ready for it]; but even yet you are not strong enough [to be ready for it],

3 For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses]. For as long as [there are] envying and jealousy and wrangling and factions among you, are you not unspiritual and of the flesh, behaving yourselves after a human standard and like mere (unchanged) men?

Hebrews 5:12-14 KJV

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Note: _____

You're not going to be able to chew it all up in one sitting, you need to take it home and chew some there. The higher level requires more responsibility on your part. We study and learn here, you get the seed and the harvest but you need to learn to go home with some seed and harvest it on your own. Start to read and apply the Word. This goes back to muscle memory, repetition and more repetition until we don't even have to think about it anymore and we just do it.

Just like Jesus who was our example who can stand before God without a sense of unworthiness (remember come boldly before the throne of Grace - you belong there). Jesus was first the son of God, He knew who He was. He was fearless before the father and Satan and we are joint heirs with Him.

Now fear, is an interesting thing. Fear will paralyze you and cause you not to want to go any further. It will cause you to not show initiative. It will control your thoughts and what you do.

That's what a snake does; he bites his victim first and injects the poison to paralyze you. So you'll be easy prey later.

Fear is not from God, the scripture says:

2 Timothy 1:7 KJV

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Any fear that you have, you need to hunt it down and drive it out of your life. Because fear gives power to whatever you fear. Fear is a spiritual force and spiritual forces are designed to control natural things. That's why God warned us about fear – it not only paralyzes but it gives strength to what ever you fear.

You have to watch fearing your "stuff", losing your earthly possessions, losing friendships, jobs etc. Job feared and just about lost everything that he had and almost lost his life.

People fear death, fear old age, fear poverty, fear rejection, fear sickness...but we have to get that all out of your life. I'm talking about not fearing anything. Well somebody might say, "a little fear is healthy". You go over to the book of Revelations and it says all these things (fear) are going to be thrown into the lake.

Revelation 21:8 KJV

8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Fear is not there to compliment your life, fear is there to paralyze your life and give strength to the enemy who's coming against your life. So, you can not fear! I don't care what the situation is, you might get a bad doctors report and once you feel that fear coming upon you, you need to do something about it. Sometimes, people fear rejection. If you want to get rid of fear, get the knowledge of God in you. The tares and darnel are full of fear and the wheat are full of faith. Fear and faith can't live together, they are in conflict... Jesus said so.

Let's look at this in the natural. If someone thinks they're having a heart attack what are the action steps: You go to the doctor, have tests and the doctor says your hearts fine, bloods fine, sugars fine. The only thing you had was some heart burn and it was probably something you ate (chimichanga with extra bacon cheese sauce at a Mexican restaurant) so you say whew! So what just happened? why did you say whew? Fear just left. Why? Because of the knowledge you now have.

The same thing came happen but on a higher level in the spirit realm. The enemy doesn't want you to have knowledge because he knows the fear will leave. He needs fear like God needs faith.No matter what is coming at you, situation with the doctor, your finances, your kids making the wrong choices or needing to separate from a friend group, a boyfriend, a girlfriend, wheat and tares... God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7 KJV

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Note: _____

In the natural it is the same thing. The biggest thing happening in the church today is that righteousness (right standing with God by doing what is right) has not been established so people are fearful. But Jesus, did not fear anything because ‘the righteous are as bold as a lion’.

Proverbs 28:1 KJV

1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.

Everywhere that Jesus went, He was master over the devil and all of his forces. Jesus was fearless in the storms and in the face of disaster. He ruled over the circumstances that faced him and did this because of the Righteousness of God. Jesus said the same nature that is within me is now within you. (remember he emptied himself of all divine privileges). The same ability possessing Him is now possessing you. He did all these things to be an example of how you can operate.

The devil is a liar ! I don't want you to have any fear when God says get out of the boat, change you life, your friends, change the path that you want to go and go where God is telling you to go which is righteous.

When God says you can walk on water, you can walk on water. When He says give and it shall be given unto you - you can bank on that.

When you are at a right standing with God you can say that. Why? The righteous are as bold as a lion. The righteous fear nothing. The lion is not all roar with no bite, he has a reputation of attacking, he is a doer and that's why when he roars the others tremble.

Let's close part 8 in Luke's gospel chapter 5, this is one of those scriptures where you get right there in the middle of it and go ah hahhhhhh, I see it now. Revelation is the sweetest thing to your spirit.

Luke 5:1-2 KJV

1 And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,

2 And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

The fisherman were not listening but working hard and washing their nets, they may have overheard something going on but they were focused on their work.

Luke 5:3-4 KJV

3 And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

*4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, **Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.***

This is a statement of faith, righteousness always responds to Words of faith, Words of faith activate the blessing that God has for you, puts it into motion in the present circumstance.

While you're awake or after you're asleep, when you speak words of faith in a situation the anointing comes forth. The anointing activates the force of the blessing to enforce what we just learned last week – what were they (to replenish, multiply, subdue) are you with me on this?

It's important that you understand this because Jesus said **Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.** or better yet, let down your nets for a haul. How many fisherman do we have in here, when's the last time you had a haul?

That's all Jesus had to say. The command has been made...the blessing without measure has been released - things are happening, all Peter had to do is what is right or righteous - Do what Jesus or the Word says to do and you will be blessed. Now I want you to listen to what Peter said,

Luke 5:5a KJV

5 And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night,...

He's telling Jesus - we've tried this before and it doesn't work out for us... we know better than you. We've been toiling or working at this ourselves in our own strength in our own way.

Luke 5:5b KJV

5...We have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

"Nevertheless because you said so". In his mind he's thinking, I know better than that preacher/rabbi knows about fishing, but Peter said I will let down the net. Now, that's not what Jesus said, He didn't say let down the net, He said let down the net(s) - plural.

But Peter is not going to do that. He knows good and well he's not going to get anything, he's been out all night and he's hungry, his wife will be wondering where he's at, she know's he's not supposed to be fishing this time of day. His cell phone didn't work out there on the water either...

But out of respect for Jesus and he did respect him highly he said because you said so I will let down the net. Notice, Jesus didn't say anything, HE already said what HE had to say. So why didn't he let down the nets?

You don't want to rewash those nets, because if you don't they'll rot on you and if you throw them back in they aren't going to catch anything, so what did he do? He made a toil based decision and he let down an old net that he didn't care if he washed it or not. Now pay attention,-

Luke 5:6 KJV

*6 And when they had this done, **they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.***

Peter knows he's in trouble – oh God I have tithed an unholy tithe – he knew what he'd done.

Luke 5:7 KJV

*7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. **And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.***

Well their nets didn't brake did they? Now here's the bottom line on this situation and it is so common in life that we need to meditate on it, and meditate on it, and meditate on it. We need to meditate on it so it will change the decision you make, because we all make wrong decisions based on toiling for a living.

That's the way we are going to get our blessing, through obedience which is right or righteous... proving our divine nature change. That's a whole different way to live altogether, but you have to train at it because you have to learn to trust God's Word, His Promises or His Blessings (the same blessing that was made to Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac,) you have to learn to trust Jesus or His Word, and His authority over the land for your life and how He is going to administer it to you.

Luke 5:7-8 KJV

7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

*8 When Simon Peter saw it, **he fell down at Jesus' knees,***

Why didn't he fall down at his feet? Because the boat was full of fish! They're slapping him in the face and he didn't catch one of them. All he did was cast but one rotten old net. You're blessing from God or His Plan can be piling up all around you and you don't even know it, you don't even know it's there.

Note: _____

The answer to your prayers is right there. The promises of God and His word has already gone forth and all you have to do is claim them by doing what is right according to His Word. Separate yourself from things and people that are not equally walked with this divine nature that is your and mine to have... if we would just read His Word and be obedient to His Word... that is what activate the blessing or His Plan in our lives .

Peter realized what he had done also...

Luke 5:8-9 KJV

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord

9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught (or haul) of the fishes which they had taken:

The blessing from God overtook him and here's the difference between living righteous and living by the sweat of your brow. Toiling drove the fish away, they (fish) saw the net and they were afraid. They saw the people and they were afraid, they saw the boats and they were afraid. That's the reason they fished at night because this lake was crystal clear and as soon as that net would hit the water the fish would scatter.

Toiling drives away your blessing. You are trying to get blessed by earning it, the blessing is the crown authority over all that flies, swims walks creeps or crawls, everything you need will adhere to that blessing and take the sweat off your brow.

When Jesus made his command, they had just long enough for all the fish in the sea to come up there around that boat and when they threw out the net instead of running from it they jumped in it. If you're looking somewhere else today for your answer, stop – it's right in front of you. Your faith in Jesus Christ is all that you need. You don't need another self help book, another to do list to a better you, The Bible says:

Proverbs 10:22 KJV

*22 The blessing of the Lord, it maketh **rich**, and he addeth no sorrow with it.*

Proverbs 10:22 AMPC

22 The blessing of the Lord—it makes [truly] rich, and He adds no sorrow with it [neither does toiling increase it].



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