

STORY-TIME WITH THE KING, PART 2

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

The thirteenth chapter of Matthew’s gospel records an abrupt shift in Jesus’s teaching ministry. Responding to his formal rejection as messianic King by Israel’s leadership (12:24), the Lord pivots from a clear declaration of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven to seemingly simple stories that, as he explains to his disciples, are meant to *reveal* new kingdom truths to some and, at the very same time, *conceal* those truths from others (13:11–12). Today we come to the parable of the tares among wheat, the second parable in total but the first that purposes to uncover a novel kingdom reality. This, like that of the sower before it (13:3–9, 18–23), is a parable that Jesus both *tells* (13:24–30) and later *interprets* (13:36–43) for his disciples. From this text we want to grow in our understanding of the parable itself, the mystery it revealed, and the implications for us today.

The PARABLE of the Tares and Wheat

Unpacking Jesus’s Parable

vv. 24–30

Unpacking Jesus’s *Interpretation* of His Parable

vv. 36–43; John 8:39–44

The MYSTERY of the Kingdom of Heaven

Isaiah 2:1–4; 9:6–7

Matthew 3:10–12

The IMPLICATIONS for the People of God

1. Something to *Know*
2. Something to *Pray*
3. Something to *Hope*