The first time that you saw a magician pull a coin from behind a person’s ear, or name the exact playing card from a deck… you can’t help but wonder, “How did they do that?” After the crowd leaves you slip up to the magician and ask the question, “how?”

Matthew records a similar setting, only it’s not magic or sleight of hand, it’s about weeds. A sower goes out and sows good seeds in the field, but while he sleeps the enemy comes and sows weeds among the good seeds. When the plants come up, they come up together so that to pull the weeds would also pull the good seeds that are growing… so what is the sower to do? At the harvest the reapers will come and harvest both the good seed and the weeds. The good seed will be separated from the weeds and placed in the storage barn while the weeds will be bound up and burned in the fire.

End of story, let’s sing a song and go home… NO! The disciples didn’t understand and they had a question… “Where did the weeds come from?” The good seeds are sown by the Son of God; the field is the world; the good seeds growing are the children of God; and the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the one who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age and the reapers are the Angels of God. Therefore the children of God go to be with God, and the children of the devil go to be with the devil. I can almost imagine the disciples saying, “oh yeah, I think I understand… but Lord, ‘why is there evil?’”

Why is there evil in the world, in the hearts of people, and in the church? We pray, ‘lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil…’ this mystery is NOT explained by the parable but it is NOT evaded or ignored either – an enemy has done this – is the answer Jesus gives.

An enemy of God is opposed to God

An enemy of God is opposite of God

An enemy of God is wickedness, evil, alien to God’s plan, who seek to corrupt human’s self-control… to all these enemies Jesus Christ draws the line and says, “STOP!” Moses demanded Pharaoh to ‘let my people go,’ Jesus Christ tells the devil to ‘let go of my people!’

Paul reminds us, in Romans 8, “For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God; for you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you’ve received the Spirit of adoption as children of God, who cry out Abba Father (daddy!); The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God; and if children, then heirs – heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ – provided that we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”

IF we are the children of God and IF we believe that Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world (including ours), IF we believe that Jesus’ resurrection from the dead is forever our absolute guarantee that my sin is redeemed and forgiven, IF we believe that Jesus Christ is who he says that he is…Savior, Redeemer, Lord of lords and King of kings, THEN we also must believe that He is coming again. Why? Because Jesus said so. There is little question we live today in a world where the weeds are growing up with the good seeds. IF Jesus came the first time to redeem and save us from sin’s wrath and separation from God, and promises to return again, THEN we can celebrate and press on in this life knowing that one day someday, Jesus Christ will come again! Therefore, I want to be ready.

Have you acknowledged Jesus Christ as your redeemer, have you called out to Jesus to save you from your sin? “Just do it!”

Have you confessed Jesus Christ as your Lord and King forever and ever?

Have you offered your life to God the Holy Spirit to be used for God’s glory here on earth in thanksgiving for what God has done for you in Jesus Christ?

Have you asked the Holy Spirit to come into your heart and dwell there that you might do your very best in living for God in the midst of a weedy world?

Then join with believers across this world and across the ages who have proclaimed, “Maranatha!” meaning come Lord. Is there any wonder why the last prayer in the Bible, Rev. 22:20, “Surely I am coming soon” therefore Come Lord Jesus!

It’s harvest time, are you ready for Jesus to come today? Is Jesus your Savior and Lord? When Jesus comes will he recognize you as a weed or as good seed that calls out to Him as Abba/daddy.

Remember, Jesus told the devil, “let go of my people!” and we, as the people of God today respond with our agreement, (all of God’s people say) **AMEN!**