

To Which Group Do You Belong?



Parable of the Wheat & Tares

(Weeks of Harvest)

Read this instruction carefully, doing all in your power to understand the parable. The Holy Spirit will impress the minds of those who desire a clear comprehension of this parable. {RH April 1, 1902, par.3}

Matthew Chapter 13

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.

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.

What is the heart of our message that will form two parties?

Ans. The Three Angel's Message.

“Be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh” (close of probation) (Matthew 24:44). This is our message, the very message that the three angels flying in the midst of heaven are proclaiming. The work to be done now is that of sounding this last message of mercy to a fallen world. A new life is coming from heaven and taking possession of all God's people. But divisions will come in the church. Two parties will be developed (wheat and the tares). The wheat and tares grow up together for the harvest.

The work will grow deeper and become more earnest to the very close of time. And all who are laborers together with God will contend most earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints. They will not be turned from the present message, which is already lightening the earth with its glory. Nothing is worth contending for but the glory of God. The only rock that will stand is the Rock of Ages. The truth as it is in Jesus is the refuge in these days of error... {2SM113.3-4}

Wheat and tares grow together until the harvest. Who gathers out the tares?

Ans. The angels. Angels are messengers.

In this parable we see why the tares were not to be plucked up; —it was lest the root wheat should be rooted up with the tares. Human opinion and judgment would often err. Rather than have a mistake made, and one single blade of wheat be rooted up, the Master says, “Let both grow together until the harvest.” Then the angels will gather out the tares, which will be appointed to destruction. Although in our churches that claim to believe advanced truth, there are those who are faulty and erring, as tares among the wheat, God is long-suffering and patient. He reproveth and warns the erring; but he does not destroy those who are long in learning the lessons he would teach them; he does not uproot the tares from the wheat. Tares and wheat are to grow together until the harvest; when the wheat comes to its full growth and development, and because of its character when ripened, it will be fully distinguished from the wheat tares. {EA 96.3}

To Which Group Do You Belong?

What separates the wheat from the tares?

Ans. The message of the third angel.

I then saw the third angel. Said my accompanying angel, "Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat from the tares, and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention." {EW 118.1}

When did the LOUD CRY of third angel's message begin to sound?

Ans. In 1888 & was still in progress in 1892. We are now nearing the end of the beginning of the Loud Cry whose glory shall fill the whole earth.

The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ (1888 Minneapolis Meetings), the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel (Rev 18 4th angel) whose glory shall fill the whole earth (Loud Cry of 4th angel) (RH November 22, 1892)

I saw angels hurrying to and fro in heaven, descending to the earth, and again ascending to heaven, **preparing for the fulfillment of some important event**. Then I saw another mighty angel (Rev 18- 4th angel) commissioned to descend to the earth, to unite his voice with the third angel (Rev 14), **and give power and force to his message**. Great power and glory were imparted to the angel (Rev 18- 4th angel), and as he descended, the earth was lightened with his glory. The light which attended this angel penetrated everywhere, as he cried mightily, with a strong voice, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." (Rev 18 angel) The message of the fall of Babylon, as given by the second angel, is repeated, with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the churches since 1844. The work of this angel comes in at the right time to join in the last great work of the third angel's message as it swells to a loud cry. And the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet. I saw a great light resting upon them, and they united to fearlessly proclaim the third angel's message. {EW 277}

A. T. Jones quoting Ellen White:

"In 1888 in the General Conference held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, the angel of Revelation 18 came down to do his work." (No reference given)

If the Third Angel's Message selects the wheat from the tares, then who is giving this message to gather out the tares?

Ans. The reapers/ angels; Those who are giving the 3 angel's messages!

And who is gathered during the time period of the Judgment?

Ans. Jesus gathers the wheat. So, this is still taking place today, since 1844.

What else takes place during the period of the Judgment (Probation)?

Ans. The tares and the wheat are separated & there will be those who unite with the company of saints (144,000) preaching truth.

The looker-on may discern no difference, but there is One who said that the tares were not to be plucked up by human hands, lest the wheat be rooted up also. Let both grow together until the harvest. Then the Lord sends forth his reapers to gather out the tares, and binds them in bundles to burn, while the wheat is gathered into the heavenly garner. The time of the judgment (going on since 1844) is a most solemn period, when the Lord gathers his own (gathers us into the truth of the 3rd angel's message.) from among the tares. Those (professed SDA's) who have been members of the same family are separated. A mark (sealing mark- sabbath truth) is placed upon the righteous. "They shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him." Those who have been obedient to God's commandments, will unite with the company of the saints in light (144,000?); they shall enter in through the gates into the city, and have right to the tree of life. The one shall be taken. His name shall stand in the Book of Life, while those with whom he associated shall have the mark of eternal separation from God. {SpTA04 6.1} {Lt64a-1895.13}

Souls are to be gathered as sheaves to Jesus Christ; but where are the reapers? Christ has commanded, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." The harvest is great, but the

To Which Group Do You Belong?

laborers are few. Not only is there a need of reapers, but of other agencies that will work in various lines according to their ability. Every kind of labor is to be devised and set in operation. Every follower of Christ is to do something in the work, and not to do what you can, is to manifest indifference to the claims of Christ. If you refuse to be a faithful steward working under the Master, then you are following the directions of another leader, and ranging yourself with those who are warring against God. Christ said, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." If we are not active in the service of Christ, we are ranking with those who are in positive hostility against him; for we are in the position of stumbling-blocks. **Every means of influence that God has given you should be employed to the utmost.** {RH Oct 30, 1894, par 8}

When Christ entered the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary (1844) to perform the closing work of the atonement, he committed to his servants the last message of mercy to be given to the world. Such is the warning of the third angel of Revelation 14. Immediately following its proclamation, the Son of man is seen by the prophet coming in glory (2nd Coming in clouds) to reap the harvest of the earth. {4SP 273.1}

Sister White gives an example of herself as being a reaper~

Let us give our hearts to God; for we have only a little time remaining. We are living in the last days. On every hand are signs of the end. Life is becoming more and still more uncertain. We hear of numerous wrecks and other disasters; we hear of many who are killed in an instant, without a moment's warning. Let us determine not to wait until a more convenient season before preparing to meet the Lord in peace when he comes (to judgment). Let us give ourselves wholly to him, and then work for the salvation of other souls, from house to house, and wherever we may be. **I am expending all the means I have, in the work of advancing the third angel's message. We should be planning to win souls to Christ, and now is our time to do this work.** The harvest is ready, but the reapers (God's true people proclaiming 3 AM's) are few. From all parts of the world we are receiving letters telling us that the light is shining in clear rays in distant lands, and that the honest in heart are accepting the evidences of the truth for this time. {RH June 14, 1906.22}

Why are the sowers and reapers so few?

The professed people of God do not study the life of Christ as they should. Satan has filled their minds with interest in things of minor importance, and the eternal realities are set aside. It is this that makes so great a dearth of laborers; this is why the sowers and reapers are so few. The fields already white unto the harvest, call for workers from every walk in life. There is so much, O, so much undone that should be done for the benefit of humanity! The widows, the fatherless, the poor, the helpless, are all around us; and we can expend money in selfish thoughtlessness when so much needs to be done? Christ will give us grace to do the work next to us; **he will help us to use our time with wisdom, to give our means to unselfish projects.** But he declares, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." The absence of the heart-felt religion, the love that purifies the soul, places the professed followers of Christ with his enemies. {RH Jan 27, 1891, par12}



What has the Lord reserved?

Ans. The **APPOINTED WEEKS** of the harvest (since 1844 to our day) in which He gives the former and latter rain (3 angel's messages. The Loud Cry **BEGAN** to sound in 1888) to prepare us to stand at the end of the world when the 7 last plagues are falling.

As noted above, we know the harvest began in 1844. The Millerites were given the opening scenes of the Judgment/ Harvest (based on 2300 year-time prophecy & 3 angel's messages) and today, we are given (by the sign of the parable of the fig tree in Matthew: Islam going to Jerusalem & the repeating of the 3 angel's messages along with the 4th angel) the closing scenes of the Judgment/ Harvest. God has reserved the appointed times of the harvest.

To Which Group Do You Belong?

Jer. 5:21-24

21 Hear now this, O foolish people, and without understanding; which have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not:

22 Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

23 But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone.

24 Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season (H6256: "the time of an EVENT"- probation closing—when Islam goes into Jerusalem): he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks (since 1844 until today) of the harvest.

25 Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you.

Deut 11:14 That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

Ps 147:8 Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.

Jer 14:22 Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? art not thou he, O LORD our God? therefore we will wait upon thee: for thou hast made all these things.

Are we to know the exact time (date/ year)?

Ans. No. We only know when it is near based on the SIGN God has given us. God has not given us the exact time since we would not make good use of the time. We are not to set time.

This was the document I came upon last Monday in searching over my writings, and here is another which was written in regard to a man who was setting time in 1884, and sending broadcast his arguments to prove his theories. The report of what he was doing was brought to me at the Jackson, Mich., camp-meeting, and I told the people they need not take heed to this man's theory; for the event he predicted would not take place. The times and the seasons God has put in his own power, and why has not God given us this knowledge? — Because we would not make a right use of it if he did. A condition of things would result from this knowledge among our people that would greatly retard the work of God in preparing a people to stand in the great day that is to come. We are not to live upon time excitement. We are not to be engrossed with speculations in regard to the times and the seasons which God has not revealed. Jesus has told his disciples to "watch," but not for definite time. His followers are to be in the position of those who are listening for the orders of their Captain; they are to watch, wait, pray, and work, as they approach the time for the coming of the Lord; but no one will be able to predict just when that time will come; for "of that day and hour knoweth no man." You will not be able to say that he will come in one, two, or five years, neither are you to put off his coming by stating that it may not be for ten or twenty years. {RH March 22, 1892 par 10}

The disciples were anxious to know the exact time for the revelation of the kingdom of God; but Jesus tells them that they may not know the times and the seasons; for the Father has not revealed them. To understand when the kingdom of God should be restored, was not the thing of most importance for them to know. They were to be found following the Master, praying, waiting, watching, and working. They were to be representatives to the world of the character of Christ. That which was essential for a successful Christian experience in the days of the disciples, is essential in our day. "And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." And after the Holy Ghost was come upon them, what were they to do? "And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."

This is the work in which we also are to be engaged. Instead of living in expectation of some special season of excitement, we are wisely to improve present opportunities, doing that which must be done in order that souls may be saved. Instead of exhausting the powers of our mind in speculations in regard to the times and seasons which the Lord has placed in his own power, and withheld from men, we are to yield ourselves to the control of the Holy Spirit, to do present duties, to give the bread of life, unadulterated with human opinions, to souls who are perishing for the truth. {RH March 22, 1892, par 3}

When does the harvest take place?

Ans. At the end of probationary time when Jesus steps out of the sanctuary declaring, 'He that is righteous, let him be righteous still and he that is filthy, let him be filthy still...'. According to Matthew 13:39, if "the harvest is the end of the world," we can correctly

To Which Group Do You Belong?

conclude that the end of probationary time takes place near the end of the world, just prior to the harvest. We know that probation (judgment) began Oct. 22, 1844.

We are now living close to the end of the world as probation is soon to close.

The tares and the wheat are to grow together; until the harvest; and the harvest is the end of probationary time. {COL 71.3}

The work of judgment which began in 1844 must continue until the cases of all are decided, both of the living and the dead; hence it will extend to the close of human probation. {GC 88 435.2}

When Jesus leaves the sanctuary, then they who are holy and righteous will be holy and righteous still; for all their sins will then be blotted out, and they will be sealed with the seal of the living God. But those that are unjust and filthy will be unjust and filthy still; for then there will be no Priest in the sanctuary to offer their sacrifices, their confessions, and their prayers before the Father's throne. Therefore what is done to rescue souls from the coming storm of wrath (plagues) must be done before Jesus leaves the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary. {EW 48.1}

...the ends of the world are come ... “We hear the footsteps of an approaching God to punish the world for their iniquity.” “The end of time is close upon us. The world's inhabitants are being bound in bundles to be burned. Shall you be bound up with the tares?” “Do you realize that every year thousands and thousands and ten times ten thousand souls are perishing, dying in their sins? The *plagues* and *judgments* of God are *already* doing their work, and souls are perishing, dying in their sins? The *plagues* and *judgments* of God are *already* doing their work, and souls are going to ruin because the light of truth has not been flashed upon their pathway.”

During the harvest, what takes place with the wicked tares?

Ans. The wicked will be gathered from the righteous. At the end of the world time period (Harvest) when the plagues will begin to fall, the righteous are sealed and therefore cannot succumb to death (the tares “trouble them no more forever.”)



Wheat Tare
Ripened grain, ready for harvest.

The tares so closely resembled the wheat that the laborers might easily be deceived when the blades were green, and root out the good plants. But when the field was white for the harvest, then the worthless weeds bore no resemblance to the wheat that bowed under the weight of its full, ripe heads. Then the tares were ruthlessly plucked up and destroyed, while the precious grain was gathered into barns. Sinners who make false pretensions of piety mingle together for a time with the true followers of Christ, and this external semblance of Christianity is calculated to deceive many. But in the harvest of the world there will be no likeness between good and evil. The wicked will be gathered from the righteous, to trouble them no more forever. {2SP 249.1}

... *but the tares are the children of the wicked one; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; ... Matt 13: 38, 39*

When is the wheat gathered?

Ans. During the time of the Judgment/ probationary time; BEFORE the harvest!

The time of the judgment (going on since 1844) is a most solemn period, when the Lord gathers his own (gathers us into the truth of the 3rd angel's message.) from among the tares. {SpTA04 6.1}

What is the great day of God & the start of the end of the world?

Ans. When probation closes and the 7 last plagues begin.

To Which Group Do You Belong?

The evidence of the soon coming of Christ is right upon us (*close of probation*), and many of us are asleep (*sleepy virgins*). We do not half gather up the important truths written for our admonition, upon whom **the ends of the world are come**. Iniquity is abounding everywhere, and the **love of many** (“many” refers to SDA’s: 5T 136; GC 608.2; 2T 346.1) **has waxed cold**. Unless we understand the importance of these moments that are swiftly passing into eternity, and **make ready a people to stand in the great day of God**, we shall be unfaithful stewards. The **watchman** is to know the time of night (*Matt 24*). Everything is now clothed with a solemnity that all who believe the truth should feel and sense. They should act in reference **to the great day of God. The plagues of God are just upon the world, and we need to be preparing for that great day.**

“We hear the footsteps of an approaching God to punish the world for their iniquity.” **“The end of time is close upon us. The world's inhabitants are being bound in bundles to be burned. Shall you be bound up with the tares?”** “Do you realize that every year thousands and thousands and ten times ten thousand souls are perishing, dying in their sins? The *plagues* and *judgments* of God are *already* doing their work, and souls are going to ruin because the light of truth has not been flashed upon their pathway.” {GCB April 1, 1897, par 2}

The end of all things is at hand. The day of distress, of anguish, **of plague**, of retribution, **of judgment for sin**, is **coming on the world as a thief in the night** (*Matt 24 language*). The time is near when **sudden destruction will come upon the world, and they will not escape** (*Matt 24 language*). {SPTED 130.1}

Mercy's sweet call is now sounding; but it will soon die away. **Probation's hour will soon be ended. The seven last plagues will fall**, and then those who have chosen the pleasures of the world and rebelled against God, will cry for mercy when there will be none to answer their prayers. But a voice will be heard, — “Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting.” **And as they realize that they have no shelter from the dreadful storm of God's wrath, they will plead for one little hour of probation that they may again hear the sweet voice, inviting “every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.”** It will then fall upon the ear, in that dreadful hour. **“Too late! too late!”** “Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded. But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof. I also will laugh at your calamity, I will mock when your fear cometh.” {YI Jan 1, 1854, par 5}

*The **harvest** is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved. Jer. 8:20*

Today Christ is looking with sadness upon those **whose characters He must at last refuse to acknowledge**. Inflated with self-sufficiency, they hope that it will be well with their souls. **But at the last great day, the mirror of detection reveals to them the evil that their hearts have practiced, and shows them at the same time the impossibility of reform.** Every effort was made to bring them to repentance. But they refused to humble their hearts. **Now the bitter lamentation is heard, “The **harvest** is past, the summer is ended, and my soul is not saved”** (cf. *Jeremiah 8:20*).... UL 301.5

“**The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly;**” but where do we behold the true advent spirit? Who are preparing to stand in that time of temptation which is just before us? The people to whom God has entrusted the sacred, solemn, testing truths for this time **are sleeping** (*sleeping virgins*) **at their post**. They say by their actions: We have the truth; we are “rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;” while the True Witness declares: Thou “knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.” {5T 100.3}

*Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, **waiting at the posts of my doors**. Prov 8:34*

When Jesus ascended to heaven he committed his work on earth to those who had received the light of the gospel. They were to carry the work forward to completion. He has provided no other agency for the promulgation of his truth. Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” “And lo, I am with you always, **even unto the end of the world.**” **This solemn commission reaches us in this age. God leaves with his church the responsibility of receiving or rejecting it.** {HS 288.1}

What does the field represent?

Ans. The fallen churches of the world of which consists both tares and wheat.

“**The field**,” Christ said, “**is the world.**” But we must understand this **as signifying the church of Christ in the world.** {COL 70}

To Which Group Do You Belong?

The world is a fallen world, and the church is a place represented by a field in which grow tares and wheat. {RH Aug 8, 1893, Par 5}

Prior to what 2 events are the three angel's messages to be sounded?

Ans. 1) The end of the world (when probation has closed and the plagues are poured out) & 2) The second Advent of Christ (during the 7th plague). Again, we are now living close to the end of the world.

“Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.” Revelation 14:13. Wonderful words [are] these, and especially when considered in the light of their setting at the close of the prophecy concerning a threefold message to be sounded preparatory to the end of the world and the second advent of Christ. {LS 476.2}

The whole earth is to be lightened with the glory (Loud Cry of Rev 18 angel) of God's truth. The Lord will not close up the period of probation until the warning message shall be more distinctly proclaimed. {GCDB Jan 28, 1893, par 27}

This warning is brought to view in **Revelation 14**. Here is a threefold message represented as proclaimed by heavenly beings, and immediately followed by the coming of the Son of man “to reap *the harvest* of the earth.” The first of these warnings announces the approaching Judgment. The prophet beheld an angel flying “in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his **Judgment is come**; and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” [Revelation 14:6, 7.]

This message is declared to be a part of the “everlasting gospel.” The work of preaching the gospel has not been committed to angels, but has been entrusted to men. Holy angels have been employed in directing this work, they have in charge the great movements for the salvation of men; but the actual proclamation of the gospel is performed by the servants of Christ upon the earth. {GC 88311.3}

What determines our eligibility to be among the wheat?

Ans. Our character.

I see perplexities on every side. As character develops man and woman will take their position, for varied circumstances brought to bear upon them will cause them to reveal the spirit which prompts them to action. Every one will reveal the character of the bundle with which he is binding himself. The wheat is being bound up for the heavenly garner. The true people of God are now bound up for the heavenly garner. The true people of God are now pulling apart (leaving the church or associations that teach error & proclaiming the 3 AM's message to Come Out of error!), and the tares are being bound in bundles ready to burn. Decided positions will be taken. Satan will move upon minds that have been indulged, upon men who have always had their own way, and anything presented to them in counsel or reproof to change their objectionable traits of character is considered faultfinding, binding them, restraining them, that they cannot have liberty to act themselves. The Lord in great mercy has sent messages of warning to them, but they would not listen to reproof. Like the enemy who rebelled in heaven, they do not like to hear, do not correct the wrong they have done but become accusers, declaring themselves misused and unappreciated. {1888 Mat 995}

Other Bible quotes on “harvest”:

Matt 9:37-38. Laborers few

Prov 26:1; 25:13; 10:5

Joel 3:13

Ex 34:22; 23:16

Jer 51:33; 50:16- Babylon

Isa 18:5; 9:3- Pruning hooks

1Sam 12:17; 8:12- thunder and rain/ instruments

Rev 14:15

Isa 16:9

2Sam 21:10

Isa 17:11- grief and sorrow

Deut 24:19

Josh 3:15

Jer 5:17

Amos 4:7

*Ecclesiasticus 24:6

*Judith 8:2

To Which Group Do You Belong?

SUMMARY

- 1) We are counseled to read carefully & clearly comprehend the instruction of this parable.
- 2) This is our present message, the very message that the three angels flying in the midst of heaven are proclaiming.
- 3) A threefold message is to be sounded preparatory to the end of the world and the second advent of Christ.
- 4) The wheat and the tares grow together until the harvest. The harvest is the end of probationary time.
- 5) The angels gather out the tares.
- 6) Specifically, the third angel's message, separates the wheat from the tares.
- 7) The reapers are the angels (laborers) who gather out the tares while the wheat is gathered by proclaiming the three angel's messages.
- 8) Sister White referred to herself as a reaper.
- 9) The reapers (laborers) are few because their minds are filled with interest in things of minor importance, and the eternal realities are set aside. They expend time and money in selfish thoughtlessness, rather than spending their means in the cause of present truth.
- 10) We are not to set times (dates, months, years) for events (i.e. close of probation, 2nd Coming etc.) which the Father has not revealed to us. We are only to know when the events are near based on signs the Lord has given to us; especially, the close of probation.
- 11) The field signifies the church of Christ in the world in which grows wheat and tares.
- 12) During the time of the judgment (beginning in 1844), the Lord gathers his own (wheat) from among the tares which creates a separation between the two classes.
- 13) The wicked will be gathered from the righteous in the harvest of the world when probation has closed.
- 14) When Christ entered the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary (1844) to perform the closing work of the atonement, he committed to his servants the last message of mercy to be given to the world.
- 15) Those who have been obedient to God's commandments, will unite with the company (144,000?) of the saints in the light.
- 16) The Loud Cry of the third angel began to sound in 1888 and will swell to a loud cry until the earth is lightened with God's glory (truth).

To Which Group Do You Belong?

17) The great day of God is when the seven last plagues begin to be poured out (after probation has closed and God's mercy is withdrawn).

18) Everyone will reveal the character of the bundle with which he is binding himself. The Lord in great mercy has sent messages of warning. Are you heeding the warnings and reproof? To which group do you belong?

The Wheat and The Tares

1 Growing together, wheat and tares,
Clustering thick and green,
Fanned by the gentle summer airs,
Under one sky serene,
Over them both the sunlight falls,
Over them both the rain,
Till the angels come, when the Master calls,
To gather the golden grain.



Refrain:

Jesus, oh, grant when thine angels come,
To reap the fields for thee,
We may be gathered safely home,
Where thy precious wheat shall be.



2 Growing together, side by side,
Both shall the reaper meet,
Tares aloft in their scornful pride,
Bowing heads of the wheat.
Swift and sure o'er the waving plain,
The sickle sharp shall fly,
And the precious wheat, the abundant grain,
Shall be harvested in the sky. [Refrain]



3 But for the tares, for them the word
Of a terrible doom is cast;
Bind and burn, said the blessed Lord,
They shall leave the wheat at last.
Never again the summer rain,
Never the sunshine sweet,
That were lavished freely, all in vain,
On the tares among the wheat. [Refrain]



4 Where shall the reapers look for us,
When that day of days shall come?
Solemn the thought, with grandeur fraught,
Of that wondrous harvest home.
None but the wheat shall be gathered in,
By the Master's own command,
For the tares alone, the doom of sin,
And the flame in the Judge's hand. [Refrain]

