Eliminate the weeds

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Gray

Introduction

1. Text Luke 8:4-15
2. There are 205 varieties of weeds in America, and it is likely you have 2/3 of them in your yard.
3. In our spiritual life we have weeds and they can be deadly to being a productive person.
4. To be productive, we need to get after the weeds.
5. The problem in the parable was not the soil, seed, nor soil, but what was coming from the soil.
6. Let us look at the weeds

II Discussion

1. First we need to identify the weeds
    a. It can be hard to tell the weeds from the good crops sometimes, Johnson grass and corn when they are young.
    b. Weeds to one can be a flower to another, morning glory
    c. The cares of this world
        i. There are some cares that we must take care of. 1 Timothy 5:8; Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
        ii. This has to do with the things that worry us. Matthew 6: 25-34
        iii. This worry can cause us to become unproductive!
    d. Riches
        i. Riches promise more than they can deliver
        ii. Solomon knew of the vanity of riches Ecclesiastes 5:9-20
        iii. Paul also talked of the problems riches can cause. 1 Timothy 6:6-10
        iv. The process of securing our finances can keep us unproductive
    e. The pleasures of this world
        i. Pleasure of this life or desire for power, honor choke out the word. There is as much compatibility between worldliness and spirituality as there is between fire and water Matthew 6:24; James 4:4
        ii. There must be the proper control of these things James 1:13-16
        iii. They must be in their proper place Colossians 3:1-2
        iv. For all of this world will be burned up 2 Peter 3:10-14
2. We now must find the nature of the weeds
    a. There is competition of weeds and good seeds for the nutrients of the soil.
    b. The weeds grow on their own, there is no need to cultivate them
    c. They choke out the good stuff
        i. This is why time and effort is taken to weed the garden
        ii. Time and effort must be taken to weed our souls of weeds
    d. Weeds give the appearance of life
        i. They are normally green and profuse
        ii. We have to get close to them to see them for what they really are

iii. Weeds are of little value.

3. Now we can treat the weeds
    a. We can recognize them for what they are weeds Galatians 5:19-21; Hebrews 10:25
    b. We must root them out or they will come out, that is why Jesus dealt with the heart so much. Matthew 5:21-48
    c. We can reject them for what they are weeds
        i. We need the determination of will to keep them out. Titus 2:7,14; 3:14
    d. We can resist the weeds
        i. We must abide in Him or be cast out John 15:6
        ii. We must grow good seed 2 Peter 1:5-11; 3:18

III Conclusion

1. There is no place for weeds in our life!
    a. Notice the effects of the weeds, they choke and make the good seed unfruitful.
2. We must deal with the weeds in the proper way
3. Do you need to weed out things in your life?
4. The Lord wants all men to be saved Titus 2:11-12 (appeared to all men; 1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9
5. Once we start weeding do not quit until we have finished. Revelation 2:10; 2 Timothy 4:8,10
6. Weeding may be unpleasant or even painful but it is worth the effort.

Sources: Parables of our Lord, Faulkner Lecture 1994 p. 81; The Parables of our Savior, Garfield Heights Lecture 1983 p 14; Sermon outlines on the parables of Jesus by Gaddys Roy p. 14; Sermon outlines on Gospel passages by Charles Wood p. 35