



[DTGm Revelation Studies](#)

## **Episode 117 - When Wheat and Tares Meet the Furnace: Revelation Decoded**

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Hey — it's Scott Stanley here with DTG Ministries, and in this episode I'm walking you through Revelation in a way that actually feels practical, not just mysterious. We dig into Matthew 13 and the parable of the wheat and the tares to see how truth and iniquity grow side-by-side, why the enemy sneaks tares in while people sleep, and how the harvest at the end of the world separates the two — not by condemning people but by exposing and burning out the iniquity with the faith of Christ.

I talk about how the Son of Man works through people — through the church and messengers — to sow truth, and why the “furnace of fire” isn't about burning people but about the spiritual furnace (the faith of Jesus) that purges what offends. We trace this from Genesis 15's smoking furnace up through Revelation 14 and 16, showing how the cross, the lamp, and the smoking furnace are all part of God's way to purify our minds and restore the Holy Spirit's understanding.

We also unpack some commonly misunderstood bits: the difference between Babylon and New Jerusalem as mindsets, the false prophet and the whisperer who sow tares, and the idea that Christ comes as a thief — meaning there's no secret pre-end rapture before the final harvest. I explain Har-Moed (the mount of the congregation) versus the

misread "Armageddon," and why Christ is calling people into truth even as demonic spirits gather the literal-minded to battle.

Above all, this episode is a call to compassion, grace, and longsuffering — the character of God that the cross is meant to teach us. If you're tired of seeing people cling to teachings that don't set them free, or if you want to learn how to let truth replace tares in your own thinking, come along. This is about a personal battle for understanding and a humble invitation to let God's Spirit heal and reshape how you see everything.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to the KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi, I'm Scott Stanley with DTG Ministries, continuing to try to unravel the book of Revelation, to make sense of it, because we're living in the last days. All of our lives, we have been witnessing an apostasy that just surrounds us. It's everywhere. People walked away from the teaching of the apostles, and this apostasy will last to the second coming (2Th 2:7-8). But it's the teaching of the apostles that gives us the wall of our salvation ... protection, and our salvation. And without connecting with the apostles and walking in their understanding, you're not going to have a wall of protection around your city or your mindset.

Two cities at the end of the world, Babylon and New Jerusalem. New Jerusalem is a symbol of the Holy Spirit, the mindset, the city of God. Again, these are things covered in past podcasts, and I would urge you to go back to the beginning of these podcasts and start listening because one builds upon the next. When you come to this one, if you haven't heard what's before, you're not going to understand. It isn't going to make as much sense as it would if you could hear the definitions previously given.

In this podcast, I want to talk about the end of the world and what happens. I want to take this from Matthew chapter 13. We're going to be identifying symbols and applying these things... making it practical, applying these things to our own lives. In Matthew, Chapter 13, starting at verse 24,

Mat 13:24 Another parable he put forth unto them, and he said, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field.

Mat 13:25 But while men slept, the enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

Now, wheat is a symbol of the scriptures, the truth. Therefore, the seed is the truth sown, in contrast to tares, or iniquity that has been sown. How did this happen to us? Well, while men slept, we were not aware of the tares being planted in our ground, in our earth. But we began to be aware of it. We began to see what is actually going on. Verse 26,

Mat 13:26 When the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then you could see the tares, too.

You begin to realize that not only do you have some truth that's sown, but you also have tares, which look like the truth, but they're not. There's not going to be any salvation in those tares. There's not going to be any strength, any ability to set you free, and that's what we want. We desperately need to be set free from all iniquity. Verse 27.

Mat 13:27 So the servants of the householder came and said, Sir, did not you sow good seed in your field? From whence then does it have tares?

Mat 13:28 And he said, An enemy did this. (The enemy, of course, is the whisperer. It's the devil.) And the servant said unto him, Will you then that we go and gather them up?

Mat 13:29 And he said, No, lest while you gather up tares, you root up also the wheat.

Mat 13:30 Let them both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

So, the wheat and the tares, we're not talking about people. We're talking about truth versus iniquity, and he says, just let them grow together until the harvest. So if I look out and I see, I talk to Christians today, I begin to realize the darkness that they're in. There are many things they just don't understand because what was planted in their field while they slept was tares. And instead of just tearing that up, the Lord is waiting for the end, for the harvest. So let's go down to verse 36. We're in Matthew 13:36.

Mat 13:36 Jesus sends the multitude away, went into the house: and his disciples said, Declare to us the parable of the tares of the field.

Mat 13:37 He answered and said, Well, he that sows the good seed is who? the Son of man.

Now, I know when we read the Son of man, that the Son of man is the Son of God. But I also know that one like the son of man in Daniel 7:13 receives the kingdom. And we are like the Son of man. We are also those Christ will use to sow the seed. When it says that Christ does this, he always works through people. Remember, at the end, he will roar out of Zion unto Jacob. Well, that's through his people, giving the truth. The trumpets are people giving the truth. So, again, verse 37,

Mat 13:37 ... He that sows the good seed is the Son of man (and you could say through his church);

Mat 13:38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom...

Now, when we see children here and seed... see the children are the seed. Thoughts equal children... the children that you bring forth. That which is brought forth of the flesh is flesh. That which is brought forth of the spirit is spirit. It's talking about your understanding.

So, the field is the world. The good seed or the truth, these are the children of the kingdom. The iniquity, the tares are the children of, let's just say, self. We're the whisperer. The enemy that sows them is diabolos.

Mat 13:39 The enemy that sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world, and the reapers are the messengers (or you could say his church, or you could say, Zion).

When I look at this "devil," I just want to tie into this a connecting verse. This is in 2 Timothy 2:24.

2Tm 2:24 The servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all, apt to teach, and patient.

You literally can tie that in to Revelation 13, verse 10.

Rev 13:10 He that leads into captivity (the bondage of iniquity) shall also go into the bondage of iniquity: he that is killing with (the Bible) the sword, must be killed with (the Bible or) the sword. (In this killing), Herein is the patience and faith of the saints. (That is 2 Timothy 2:24.)

2Tm 2:24 The servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all, apt to teach, and patient.

This is where you're going to see the patience of the saints in dealing with the devil, people who are sowing iniquity.

2Tm 2:25 In meekness, they are instructing those that oppose themselves; if God will give them repentance to the acknowledging of what the truth actually is;

2Tm 2:26 That they may recover themselves out of what? The snare (of diabolos), the devil. And they're taken captive by him at his will (because they're listening to the whisperer).

Who sowed the tares? The devil. Now, I'm in 2 Timothy. Look at chapter 3.

2Tm 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times will come.

2Tm 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

2Tm 3:3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, and false accusers...

That word "false accuser" goes back to 2 Timothy 2:26. That is the word "devil." When you think of the devil, I know he is the author of iniquity (1Jn 3:8), but he is also the accuser of the brethren (Rev 12:10). He is a false accuser. This is who you're dealing with in Matthew chapter 13. Let's go back over there, verse 39.

Mat 13:39 The enemy that sows them is diabolos, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the messengers of God (or you could just say, Zion).

Mat 13:40 As therefore the tares (the iniquity) are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be at the end of the world. (Not the people burned in the fire. The iniquity is burned in the fire.)

Mat 13:41 The Son of man is going to send forth his messengers (or Zion, his church). They are going to gather out of his kingdom everything that offends (which is iniquity and you could just put "redeemed." They are going to gather out the iniquity by redeeming people from every nation, kindred tongue, and people.) And they're going to gather out them which do iniquity.

How does that happen? Because when the truth is given, not only are you taking out the iniquity, the tares, but people who want to cling to that iniquity will go, too. And you're going to discover what? You're going to discover they're taken captive by Satan at his will. They are the accuser of the brethren, and that's what you'll see. People will get mad and leave when you speak the truth. When you tell someone the truth, some will get mad and leave. They're fools.

They're taken captive by the adversary at his will because they're not overcoming the adversary. They might be learning verses and trying to help somebody else see a verse, but they themselves are not being helped. And when you speak the truth to them, they leave. Look at it again.

Mat 13:41 The Son of man is going to send forth his messengers, and they're going to gather out of his kingdom, everything that offends, (meaning the tares, the iniquity), and them which are doing the iniquity;

Mat 13:42 And cast them into a furnace of fire: and there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

What in the heck is the furnace of fire? In doing these podcasts, the Lord just keeps increasing our understanding of truth. I thank God that he is allowing me to do a podcast every week because I'm growing in my understanding, along with everyone else. If you'll remember in Genesis 15 (I'm not going into all of this again. This is in a recent podcast, but in Genesis 15), you actually see the cross. You see a covenant made with Abraham, and he is told to divide these animals in half. Cut them up. When he does, Genesis 15:17,

Gen 15:17 ... the sun went down, and it was dark, and behold, there's a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passes between the pieces.

I pointed out before that this burning lamp is seen in Proverbs 6. I want to read a couple of verses. Proverbs 6:20.

Pro 6:20 My son, keep your father's commandment of love, and forsake not the instruction of your mother (New Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit.)

Pro 6:23 The commandment (of the Father) is a lamp; the instruction from your mother is the light (of the lamp); and reproofs of instruction are the way of life (for all of you who are taken captive by Satan at his will).

So here I have a burning lamp passing between the pieces. And the smoking furnace is seen in Isaiah 31:9.

Isa 31:9 He shall pass over to his strong hold for fear, and his princes shall be afraid of the sign, saith Jehovah, whose fire (the Urim) is in Zion, but his furnace is in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is personified in Jesus Christ. So when I see Abraham, God's making this covenant, and between the pieces, or by means of the cross, you have the burning lamp (the Mother and the Father) passing between those pieces, the Father and his Spirit; and you see the smoking furnace, or the Son of God, because he is the personification of the Holy Spirit. The smoking furnace is Christ's understanding. Look at Revelation 14, verse 1.

Rev 14:1 I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood. He's on Mount Zion (the church), and with him the 144,000 (which is the redeemed truth).

There is your furnace. You can see it in 2 Timothy chapter 3. I want to start reading at verse 13. Remember, we're talking about the furnace of fire.

2Tm 3:13 Evil men and seducers are going to wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

2Tm 3:14 But continue thou (or remain) in the things which you've learned and you've been assured of, knowing of whom you've learned them;

2Tm 3:15 That from a child you have known the holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise unto salvation, how? Through the faith which is in Jesus.

He is the author of our faith (Heb 12:2). There's your furnace. The scriptures are no good without the faith of Christ. With the faith of Christ, he is going to burn out the tares or those things that offend. Again, let's go back to Matthew 13:41.

Mat 13:41 The Son of man is going to send forth Zion. Zion is going to gather out of his kingdom all the iniquity and them which do the iniquity. (And do what?)

Mat 13:42 And cast that iniquity into a furnace of fire. (It's got to be compared to the faith of Christ.) And there's going to be wailing and gnashing of teeth (because people don't want to give up their iniquity).

They have to be brought to repentance if God will grant them repentance, to the acknowledging of what the truth is. If they never do that, they will be taken captive by Satan at his will. Every time these things come up, they're going to fall back into the same thing.

So we're seeing, at the end of the world, the church bringing forth the truth, and that truth being the faith of Christ, and everything has to be compared to the faith of Christ. It has to be, Galatians 2:16, *we believe in Jesus to be justified by the faith of Jesus*. If your Bible does not say "the faith of Jesus," it's wrong. It's the faith of Jesus. It is the furnace. It's the smoking furnace that devours the tares.

When you look at Genesis 15, the burning lamp and the smoking furnace pass between the pieces. The word "between" is first used in Genesis 3:15. There is the devil. There is the devil and his seed "between" the woman and her seed. "Between" is a wall. By means of the cross, the Father and the Mother can pass over the wall of your iniquity, including the Son of God, who is the burning furnace. And they can come into your mind and clean out the tares, make you to understand. But you know what? I've got to say this.

When he brings us to understanding, the words that stand out to me now (I've been studying for years) ... but the words that stand out to me now are compassion and grace and long-suffering, and goodness and truth. That's the characteristic of God in Exodus 34:6-7. God wants you to have compassion, and that's the meaning of the cross. The cross is showing you how he shows you compassion and how you can have compassion for others.

If you can have compassion, you can have grace. In Romans 6:14, it is grace that governs our lives. But you can hardly do that without having compassion. But if you can have compassion and enter into grace, showing grace, then you can manifest long-suffering to help another person. The person that he forgives and raises from the dead is the guy who prays the prayer that Christ prayed on the cross. *"I feel forsaken. I'm thirsting for truth. I'm through doing this myself. I'm committing my spirit to you."*

My spirit is how I see it. I'm going to quit seeing it my way. The way I see it, I'm creating tares. I want to see it the way you do because that's the Spirit. Actually, the whole Ten Commandments are based on you following the Spirit and not the flesh. That is what God would have us do. If you're going to honor your mother and father (the commandment that's right in the middle of the ten), you're going to honor your Father, the lamp, the commandment, and you're going to let his Spirit give you the light of how to keep those commandments. Sometimes in my flesh, in my weaknesses, sometimes I find it almost unbearable to see and hear the things I see and hear, and especially in the church.

This leads to Revelation 16. Revelation 16 is the pouring out of the vials. I want you to look at Revelation 16:12. The sixth messenger pours out his vial upon the great river Euphrates. Remember in Genesis 15 how God gives the land to Abraham, in verse 18, from the river of Egypt to the river Euphrates. That is spiritual, because his promise is to the spiritual seed. So these people you're looking at are not the spiritual seed.

Verse 12, Revelation 16:12, the sixth angel pours out his vial upon the great River Euphrates, which is the river that went through Babylon. This river has to be stopped so you can open the gates of Babylon and go in there and destroy it, capture it.

Rev 16:12 The sixth angel pours out his vial upon the great River Euphrates (the confusion about God); and the water of it was dried up, so that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

Now, I used to look at that and think, well, that sounds positive, but actually it is not, because these are people who are unrepentant. They're still being taken captive by Satan at his will.

Rev 16:13 I saw three unclean spirits (you could just say demons). I saw three unclean spirits...

And remember, Matthew 25:41, *then shall he say unto them on the left hand, depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire. It's prepared for the devil and his angels.* The devil is diabolos, and his angels are the demons, the tares being sown... verse 13, Revelation 16,

Rev 16:13 I saw three unclean spirits like frogs. (Frogs catch their prey with their tongue.) They come out of the mouth of the dragon (which is Satan), out of the mouth of the beast (which overall is seen in Revelation 17, this beast having seven heads. It is the adversity against the truth that has been on this planet, from beginning to end), out of Satan, out of the beast (the adversity that is there), and out of the mouth of the false prophet (which again is the whisperer).

Remember, you've got the devil, and you've got the false prophet. The false prophet is what is seen in Revelation 13; it is Azazel, a beast coming out of the earth. He has horns like a lamb. That's a goat. It's Azazel. What is the difference between the devil and Azazel? It's the same thing, only the devil is the accuser of the brethren. Azazel gives you false teachings of God. You're listening to the false, to the tares. Verse 14,

Rev 16:14 They are the spirits of demons, working signs. They go forth to the kings of the earth (which are the kings of the east).

The kings of the east – the east is self. A king of the east is self. But the kings of the earth are seen in Daniel chapter 7 as the lion, the bear, and the leopard. Again, all of these things are in past podcasts. If I look at Daniel 7 and I see the kings of the earth, the lion, the bear, and the leopard, then I see people whose wings have been clipped; they can't go into the heavens. They're told to devour much flesh or their own understanding, and their leader, they have a head, they have a leopard with four heads, which is self or Satan.

It all really hinges around literalism, that when you're telling someone the truth, they will hang on to that literal understanding, and they can't let it go. Again, in Revelation 16:12, the river Euphrates is dried up. It prepares the way for the kings of the east, which are

the kings of the earth. The kings who follow self are governed by the lion, the bear, and the leopard. Notice what he says in verse 14.

Rev 16:14 ... The kings of the earth and the whole world gather them to the battle of the great day of God Almighty.

Now let me read this one more time. Verse 13.

Rev 16:13 I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast, and the false prophet.

Rev 16:14 They are spirits of demons. They go forth to the kings of the earth (the "literal ism" in your mind) and they gather these kings, the "literal ism" to the battle of the great day of God Almighty.

They are gathering you to battle. But here's the contrast. Verse 15. Jesus says,

Rev 16:15 Behold, I come as a thief....

If there was ever a verse that tells you there's no rapture before the end of the world, it's this one. Because even after the sixth vial, he has not returned yet as a thief.

Rev 16:15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walks naked, and they see his shame.

Rev 16:16 And he, Christ, gathers them into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Now, this is why we've always heard Armageddon is this big battle at the mount of Megiddo, which, there is no such place, the mount of Megiddo. So why in the world will this be translated this way? If you guys would go online and find a chart of the Greek alphabet and a chart of the Hebrew alphabet, you're going to discover something very interesting here. When you look at Armageddon, notice what it says here in verse 16.

He gathers them together into a place called *in the Hebrew tongue*, Armageddon. Now, the AR with a rough breathing mark is Har. In the Hebrew, that is "mount," the "mount of Megiddo." But there is no mount of Megiddo. Remember, this is Hebrew, translated into

Greek, translated into English, but God, in his mercy toward us, made sure that it was written, *"This is in the Hebrew tongue."*

In the Hebrew tongue, you have a letter that looks like the English Y. Now, if you have your chart, you'll see the Hebrew letter, ayin. It's A -Y -I -N, however you pronounce it, ayin. It looks like a Y. But if you go up to the Greek where you've got alpha, beta, gamma, the small gamma looks like a Y. What has happened, this in the Hebrew tongue should be Har-Mo'ed. But because they translated, got the letter wrong, in Greek, you've got with the G, geddon, Armageddon, the mount of Megiddo. I'm trying to simplify this as much as I can. The word should be Har-Mo'ed. Christ is gathering you to a place in the Hebrew, it's Har-Mo'ed. The demons are gathering you to a battle.

Jesus is gathering you to Har-Mo'ed. Where in the world do you ever see Har-Mo'ed? Well, let's turn back to Isaiah 14. In Isaiah 14, starting at verse 12, but this is something else we've covered in the past,

Isa 14:12 How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning? How are you cast down to the ground, which did weaken the nations!

Isa 14:13 For you said in your heart, I'm going to ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the truths of God. And I will sit also upon Har-Mo'ed. (What is it?) It's the mount of the congregation. It's in the sides of the north.

Well, that's where the table of shewbread is. It's on the north. What does he say he's going to do? Who's doing this? Lucifer.

Isa 14:14 I'm going to ascend above the high places of the church, the clouds. I'm going to be like God.

Isa 14:15 But you're going to be brought down to the grave, to the sides of the pit.

Who is saying this? Well, Paul attributes this to the son of perdition, the man of sin in 2 Thessalonians 2:3. How does the man of sin promote himself? He will tell you what the Bible means, and he is going to sow tares in your thinking, but Zion is going to come and root up the tares. In so doing, you're going to root out the people who won't let it go, those who are workers of iniquity. Again, looking at Isaiah 14:13,

Isa 14:13 You said in your heart, I'm going to ascend into the heavenly understanding of God. I'm going to exalt my conscience above the truths God has given. I'm going to sit upon Har-Mo'ed, the mount of the congregation.

If I were to say "the mount of the congregation," I know doctrines are seen as mountains. What would be the mount of the congregation? Well, the one singled out by God, he calls it the abomination of desolation. It's the teaching that God needs to have a human sacrifice before he can forgive you, and that Jesus died to pay your sin debt so God could forgive you. And they are going to replace the daily with the abomination of desolation. The daily is your daily bread, your daily understanding of the cross, allowing you to show compassion, grace, and long-suffering.

The man of sin has done this. Demons are calling you to battle. Christ is calling you to the mount of the congregation, the truth of the love of God.

One other thing I want to point out about this: It's interesting to me that looking at these vials in Revelation 16, Christ is still calling people to the truth, even to the last vial. He's still calling people to the truth. *Behold, I'm coming as a thief*, and he's calling you to the mount of the congregation... not for a big fight where he can kill everybody at the end. That is not what he's doing.

You're at the end of the world. People are going to destroy themselves. This planet is going to destroy itself. Christ will save you out of that destruction and bring you into eternity with him if you're willing enough and humble enough to let him replace your tares with truth. There's a battle happening right now for each one of us. There's a battle coming, and there are decisions to be made.

Heavenly Father, God help us to understand the truth, to glorify you in every way. In Jesus' name, Amen.