



## Reaping What Has Been Sown

### WK 54 The Gospel of Matthew

**WARM UP:** *Judgment delayed is judgment denied. Do you agree or disagree with the previous statement? Why or why not?*

**Background:** There's a judgment day, someday. Perhaps we've been lulled into a sense of false security or outrage when we see those who are obviously guilty of committing crimes seemingly never punished or never have to face the consequences of their actions. We would have to admit that it seems to be more and more common in our time, so we wonder, *"When will their payday come?"*

It's a good question that Jesus' own disciples seemed to have been struggling with when Jesus told his parable of the wheat and the weeds. How could a Holy and a Righteous God allow justice to be delayed? It doesn't seem fair, and it doesn't seem to be right, but we aren't seeing the entire picture. Jesus explains that just because the administration of justice is delayed doesn't mean that justice is denied. There will be a payday, someday. God may not settle all of his accounts in October or in April, but He does and will settle them in the time of His own choosing.

#### **READ ABOUT IT: Matt. 13:31-35**

1. *Why does this parable so puzzle his disciples? Why is patience and tolerance towards unbelievers difficult for them (and for us)?*
2. *What part of Jesus explanation of the parable disappoints you? Encourages you?*
3. *What does Jesus say about the end of the age (vv. 40-43)?*
4. *In what ways can our longing for a payday today harm our mission as believers?*
5. **Read also Mark 4:26-29.** *What does this have to say about the nature of spiritual growth?*
6. **Read Daniel 12:3.** *How can we shine as stars until Christ returns?*
7. *What does this passage teach about church purity?*

*Divine patience?*

*Human accountability?*