



Lesson 105

Creating Prophecy

- **Matthew 13:24-30**
 - The parable
- **Who are the Symbols?**
 - Workers - observe
 - Plants - experience
 - They are the same
 - Change of leadership
- **Applications**
 - The 4 and the 6
 - “The personal is political”
 - We create prophecy

Matthew 13 is a popular chapter in the Bible. One of the parables in this chapter talks about the wheat and the tares, which are understood to represent people. In this lesson, we'll be studying this parable in Matthew 13, to see what it has to teach us about prophecy.

Matthew 13:24-30

The parable

In Matthew chapter 13 you find the parable of the tares. In summary, the householder planted wheat in their field, and then an enemy came and sowed tares in it. The servants of the householder later saw the tares and offered to pluck them up, but the householder told them to wait until the harvest because they could damage the wheat. In the harvest, the householder said, the reapers would separate the wheat from the tares. For the application we are going to look at in this lesson there are three main symbols in this parable: the field, the workers/servants, and the plants. Jesus, in Matthew 13:38, said that the field is the world. So that means that this parable is dealing with what happens here on Earth.

Who are the Symbols?

Workers - observe

There are three groups in the parable of the wheat and tares. In Matthew 13: 27, it says “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?” One of the major characters in the parable are the servants. Their job is to observe what the plants are doing and then harvest them during the harvest time. They observe the world, which is the field. They are outside bodies looking in. And as it was shown in the verse, they have direct contact with the householder— they go back and forth between the house (Heaven) and the field (Earth). To make an application now, they would represent the people who study, comparing spiritual things to literal things— application— going from Heaven to Earth. The servants would be the students of prophecy (a term that Elder Jeff used all the time).

Plants - experience

In the parable of the tares, there are three symbols. The first symbol is the field which represents the world, the second is the workers and they represent the people that observe the world. The third symbol in the parable is the plants. Just like the workers, the plants represent people too. They represent everyone living in the world. The plants have a unique job of their own. While the workers are observing, the plants are doing the opposite- they are experiencing the world. Growing in the field, the plants are partakers of the nutrients in the soil. Correspondingly, they represent people who are living and experiencing the world, both physically and emotionally. This is what the plants symbolize in this parable, they are people, like the workers, but their job is to experience and grow in the field, which is the world.

They are the same

The workers and the plants have two different roles and experiences in this parable, but they both represent the same people. They symbolize God's people. Jesus said, "the good seed are the children of the kingdom" in Matthew 13:38. And according to Ellen G. White the plants are the people in the church. Also in *Christ Object Lessons* she identifies the servants, she says that, "Christ's servants are grieved as they see true and false believers mingled in the church. They long to do something to cleanse the church. Like the servants of the householder, they are ready to uproot the tares" (COL 71.2). Here she states that the servants are Christ's servants, and she says later that they are also part of the church. So the plants represent God's people and so do the workers. Previously, we saw that these two symbols represent two different experiences, both of these experiences, then, correspond to the same group of people. These people are the members of God's church. They are both the plants and the workers/servants.

The change of leadership

In 2014, there was a change of leadership. The Movement began to understand that we do not only represent the servants, but we also represent the plants. As mentioned before, the servants are the students of prophecy. That is what was taught under Elder Jeff— that we are students of prophecy. We observe the world as it is destroyed and overrun with tares. But then we began to understand that we represent the plants as well. We are living in the world. We are not just observing it. This is the message that comes under Elder Tess. We are no longer just watching prophecy play out, but we are also playing an active role in it. Beginning in 2014, the Movement knows that we not only observe the field, but we also are in the field.

Applications

The 4 and the 6

We can relate the workers and the plants to the Ten Commandments. In Matthew 13, there are three groups, the householder, the servants, and the plants. We know that if there is a householder, there must be a house. If the field is the world, and the householder is God, then the house must represent Heaven. God lives in Heaven, so we can connect God and Heaven to the first four commandments- they deal with our duty to God. Now opposite to the house is the field. The field represents the world. And if God lives in Heaven, who lives in the world? Humans, or the plants. We can connect humans and the world to the last six commandments- our duty to other people. So we have two different sides: God, who lives in the house- the first four commandments, and the plants, who live on earth- the last six commandments. But where do the workers tie into this? The workers must live in the house. We know that farmers don't live in their fields, which means the workers don't, they live in the house. They go to work every day in the field, but they all return back to the house where they live, and where they give the householder reports on the field's wellbeing. So we can connect the workers to the first four commandments. This also adds evidence to Elder Jeff's ministry representing the workers and Elder Tess' representing the plants. Elder Jeff's main focus was the coming Sunday Law. The Sunday Law deals with worship to God- the first four commandments. Workers in the field eventually go back to the house. Elder Tess' ministry focuses on equality- the last six commandments. Equality is how we treat each other on earth, which is where the plants grow.

"The personal is political"

The phrase "the personal is political" has been around for a long time. This phrase was popularized in Second Wave Feminism. This happened because a feminist named Carol Hanisch wrote a paper in 1969 where she said "personal problems are political problems". This paper was also named "The Personal is Political". She was a part of groups of women that would gather and discuss questions that related to their role as women and they would try to find answers. People would say that this was therapy and that they were only talking about personal issues. But Hanisch said that that was not right because the personal problems that women faced were connected to broader, political issues. So back then this phrase meant that the personal sexist experiences of women were not their fault or their personal problems, instead this happened because that is how society as a whole operated, it was political. This also led to women pushing for change in politics and society because this, they believed, was a fundamental cause of gender inequality. Back then this phrase actually had a different meaning than it has now. Sometimes today this phrase is used in a different way. "The personal is political" can mean that your personal decisions have political consequences. This definition is what this Movement uses. We believe that your personal actions affect other people, so if you do something sexist or accept sexist ideas, other people will see that and it will affect them. This is sort of the opposite of what the phrase originally meant: then it was that sexism on a personal level was because there was sexism in politics (society), now we prefer to use the phrase to mean that sexism on the personal level influences society (politics), although both definitions can be used. According to the parable of the tares, we can be seen as plants who experience what happens in the world, or prophecy. So our personal lives are affected by outside politics or society. But we can also connect the new definition of "the personal is political" to this parable. As

plants our personal choices also affect the world, society, or politics; politics influence us and we influence it because “the personal is political”.

We create prophecy

We create prophecy. We are experiencers and not just observers. But we are not the only one. People all around us are creating prophecy. The election in France is an example of prophecy being created. On March 3, 2022, French President Emmanuel Jean-Michel Frédéric Macron announced that he was running for re-election. Marion Anne Perrine Le Pen had announced that she was going to run for president— for the third time— on January 16, 2020. Macron is a member of the La République En Marche! (The Republic on the Move!) Party which is a left wing party. On May 5, 2022, the party’s name was changed to the Renaissance Party. Le Pen is a member of the National Rally Party, which is a nationalistic and far-right party. On April 10 and 24, 2022, the French election was held. Macron won 27.9% of the vote and Le Pen won 23.2% of the vote. Neither candidate won over 50% so a runoff election was held. In the runoff election, Macron won 58.5% of the vote and Le Pen won 41.5% of the vote. He became to first president to win re-election in two decades. The majority of the French people voted for a liberal president over a conservative one. And this is an issue that is important to prophecy today because we know that liberal parties are the parties that this Movement is more closely aligned with. Their personal choice for the liberal candidate affected politics- who became the next President of France. The French people- plants- are also creating and experiencing prophecy by choosing the correct stream.

In summary:

The Parable



= WORLD

Who are the Symbols?



OBSERVE



STUDENTS OF PROPHECY



EXPERIENCE





=

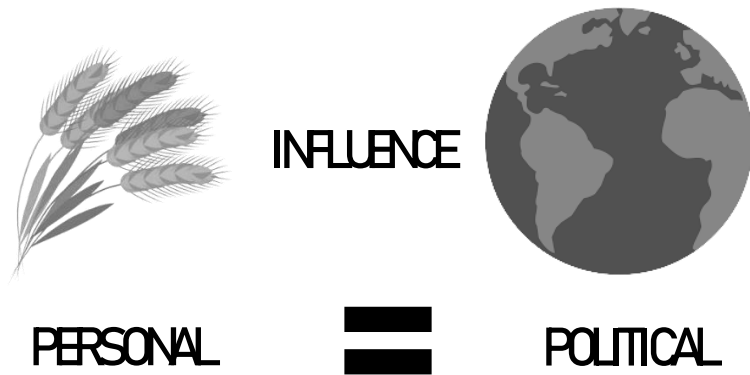


OBSERVERS



EXPERIENCERS

Applications



FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CREATING PROPHECY

Official Youth Prophecy Group website:

youthprophecygroup.org

If you have any questions or comments on any of the material contact us at:

youthprophecygroup@gmail.com

Find all the YPG lesson videos at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeltzVajTXgSQRL-o2XOq_g

Link to YPG Zoom meetings which are at 10:00am Pacific Time on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87170293849>