



## SCRIPTURE READING MATTHEW 13

24 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;

25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.

# WHILE MEN SLEPT

*"...While men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way."*

# SOME MEN SLEEP LIKE JONAH

- **Jonah 1:5** Then the mariners were afraid; and every man cried out to his god, and threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten the load. But Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep. **6** So the captain came to him, and said to him, "What do you mean, sleeper? Arise, call on your God; perhaps your God will consider us, so that we may not perish."
- Many today are like Jonah so far as their souls are concerned.
- The danger is great, but they are asleep regarding it all. Their sin is raging like a hurricane.
- "Awake you who sleep, arise from the dead and Christ will give you light." **Eph. 5:14**

# SOME SLEEP LIKE THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS IN THE GARDEN – MARK 14:32-42

- **Mark 14:32** Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” **33** And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. **34** Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.”
- **Mark 14:37** Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour? **38** Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

# SOME SLEEP LIKE THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS IN THE GARDEN – MARK 14:32-42

- Jesus had plainly told His disciples several times that He would suffer and die. **Matt. 16:21-23**
- Today some are exhausted and worn down spiritually.
- There is a need to be watchful, for the enemy will attack in our weakest moments.
- **1 Peter 5:8** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

# SOME SLEEP LIKE SAMSON

- Delilah had already tried three times to find the source of Sampson's great strength. **Judges 16:7,11,13**
- When "his soul was vexed to death," he told Delilah the truth about his strength. **Judges 16:16-22**
- **Judges 16:4** Afterward it happened that he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah.

# SOME SLEEP LIKE SAMSON

- **Judges 16:19** Then she lulled him to sleep on her knees, and called for a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him.
- Many today, like Sampson, are charmed by someone or something of this world.
- We cannot presume we can place ourselves in danger and be safe.
- One day we may wake up like Sampson and find that the Lord has departed from us.

# SLEEP THE SLEEP OF THE SLUGGARD

- **Proverbs 24:30** I went by the field of the lazy man, And by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding; **31** And there it was, all overgrown with thorns; Its surface was covered with nettles; Its stone wall was broken down. **32** When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction: **33** A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest; **34** So shall your poverty come like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.
- Today many are lazy, inactive, and are not doing the Lord's work.
- Remember - Lazy farmers do not reap crops, neither does a lazy Christian.



# SLEEP THE SLEEP OF CARELESSNESS

- **Ephesians 5:14** Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.” **15** See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, **16** redeeming the time, because the days are evil. **17** Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
- To be a “careless” Christian, means you “care less” about your soul!!!!

# SLEEP THE SLEEP OF CARELESSNESS

- **Ephesians 2:1** And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, **2** in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, **3** among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. **4** But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **5** even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

# SLEEP THE SLEEP OF CARELESSNESS

- There is a lot of carelessness in the church. Many are asleep spiritually.
- Paul said to the Corinthians, "...For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and some sleep." **1 Cor. 11:30**
- **1 Thess. 5:6** Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. **7** For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. **8** But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.
- God's people are to be sober and vigilant at all times.

# SLEEP THE SLEEP OF CARELESSNESS

- **1 Peter 1:13** Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
- **1 Peter 4:7** But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

# WHILE MEN SLEPT

- Let us be awake, alert, and watchful.
- Many are living unrealistically, in illusion, thinking they are awake spiritually, but they are asleep.
- Let us wake up and see our true condition.
- Let us be active, and do our very best in the Lord's service.