The Good Seed Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

- A. Background: Ephesians 6:10-18.
- B. The Christian life is one of spiritual conflict.
- C. Items of armor.
 - 1. Girded loins the Word of God.
 - 2. Breastplate of righteousness having a conscience void of offense towards God and man.
 - 3. Feet shod with the gospel of peace a Bible based testimony of Christ. (Revelation 12:11)
 - 4. All are interpenetrated by faith.
 - 5. The shield of faith an ability to penetrate the attacks of the enemy. (Luke 8:22)
 - 6. The helmet of salvation a reminder of the provision in Jesus Christ.
 - 7. The sword of the Spirit a saying of Scripture.
 - 8. Praying with all kinds of payer.
- D. Primary text: Matthew 13:24.
 - 1. Things will get darker as the end approaches.
 - 2. A vision for the world is present in this text.
 - 3. The closer one is to Christ the greater his heart will be for the whole world.
- E. The secret to reproducing is in "good seed."
- II. The "good seed."
 - A. It has life.
 - 1. It is Christ's indwelling life that it has.
 - 2. What the life is like.
 - a. It is living.

- b. It is abundant and inexhaustible.
- c. It is powerful over death and that put Christ in power over all things. (Ephesians 1:19-23, Joshua 10:24)
- d. It must be sown.
- B. It is sown in the field by Christ in faith.
 - 1. It must be born out of a calling of God. (Matthew 15:13)
 - 2. God is not looking for brains and ideas but for someone to carry out His ideas. (John 1:6)
 - 3. We all need a personal commission from God. (Exodus 3:4)
 - a. A need in itself is not a call.
 - b. A call will give the believer security.
 - c. It will also give an inner dynamism and freedom.
- C. It is able to reproduce because it dies.
 - 1. The life of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:10)
 - a. For this to happen there must be death.
 - b. This death of self results in life for other men. (John 12)
 - 2. Other men. (2 Corinthians 4:12, John 4:12)
 - a. A life lived for self is a lonely life.
 - b. Stages for reproduction.
 - 1) Falling into the ground.
 - 2) Dying to self-effort, to God given talent, etc.
 - c. There is a joy in dying to self Christ's life and the lives of others. (Isaiah 40:43)

Application questions

1. What is good seed and what characterizes it?

2. How is this seed dependent? How does this contrast with the philosophy of the world?
3. Why is death to self important in the Christian life? What things do you need to experience a kind of death to?