Speaker: Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister

**Series: Storyteller**

**Today: Battle Grounds**

* **Question: How Should We Live In A World Where The Kingdom Of Darkness Co-Exists With The Kingdom Of God?**

**Image of beautiful wheat field**

<https://proxy.duckduckgo.com/iu/?u=https%3A%2F%2Ftotosalcedo.files.wordpress.com%2F2015%2F02%2Fabundancia-campo-de-trigo.jpg%3Fw%3D1200&f=1>

**image of wheat field mixed with weeds**

<https://proxy.duckduckgo.com/iu/?u=https%3A%2F%2Ftse2.mm.bing.net%2Fth%3Fid%3DOIP.chlxx7YyFgt05tvPEXSaLwHaFj%26pid%3DApi&f=1>

**image of an enemy**

<https://proxy.duckduckgo.com/iu/?u=http%3A%2F%2Fscreenrant.com%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2FStar-Wars-Darth-Vader-Wallpaper.jpg&f=1>

***Matthew 13***

*28" 'An enemy did this,' he replied.
      "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'*

*29" 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. 30Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.' "*

*36Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."*

*37He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39and the enemy who sows them is the devil.*

*The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.*

*40“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.*

1. **Satan is Real and Influential.**
2. **His Goal Is Destruction.**

***John 10:10***

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

1. **His Method Is Deception.**

***John 8***

*31To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

*44You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

“When Satan undertook to draw Eve away from God, he did not hit her with a stick, but with an idea. It was with an idea that God could not be trusted and that she must act on her own to secure her own well-being.” – Dallas Willard

1. **His Demise Is Certain.**

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**2 Peter 3:8, 9**

*8But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

**Video of Leon Johnson from Turf Wars Sermon in 2012**