

## **One Reaps What He/She Sows!**

### **Galatians 6:7-10; Proverbs 11:18; and Proverbs 22:8**

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#### **I. Historical Background and Biblical Context**

Paul's teaching about living in God's Spirit is expanded here in Chapter 6 which he gave at the end of Chapter 5. In Chapter 5, Paul talks about fruit, and he uses a comparison of the Spiritual nature and the sinful nature. In Chapter 6, he gave the Galatians instructions for practical daily living and how they should treat each other. He teaches the Galatians how to live free in the Spirit of God. Christians should always be about restoration and forgiveness. When we see a brother or sister going astray, we shouldn't turn our backs and pretend nothing is happening. We should be gentle and humble in correcting them but never forgetting to examine ourselves. He further taught them and is teaching us, the responsibilities of helping their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to bear each other's burdens and along with the responsibility of bearing the weight of their own individual's burdens. Paul clearly states that the grace of God does not eliminate the principles of choice and consequence. Choices we make in this life will bring about natural results. We must not think that because we richly partake of God's grace and mercy that nothing will become of the sins and wrongdoings that we do. What we do in this life does matter. Eternal life or eternal damnation is the choice one's own choosing. There is no in between; we either choose to please God or please our flesh. We cannot walk in the Spirit and the flesh at the same time. We must choose. The choice we make will be reflected in the harvest of life that we reap. The crop we produce between now and the moment of

our death is determined by the seeds we plant along the way. Eternal life comes from planting God's Spirit by faith in Christ, and not by works of the flesh. We must keep on doing the good that is pleasing to God. The harvest will show that we have planted well. God will be the One to say, 'Well done My good and faithful servant' or "I never knew you, depart from Me".

## **II. The Lesson: One Reaps What He/She Sows!**

### **1. Verse 7. Be Not Deceived: God Cannot Be Mocked**

Paul starts off this verse with a stern warning to Galatians to not be deceived. In other words, do not accept as true and valid what is untrue and invalid. To be deceived is to persuade someone that something false is the truth or to keep the truth hidden from someone for your own advantage. Paul has been very intentional in his teaching to the Galatians about the bondage of the law versus the liberty in the Spirit of Christ; therefore, he did not want them to be deceived nor to be deceiving. A person is deceived when they assume that they will not reap what they sow. God is not mocked by actions, thoughts, or words. He is an all knowing God that knows the very intents of our hearts.

If we expect God to not allow us to reap what we have sown is to mock God's justice and holiness. But it shall not be because God cannot be mocked. The harvest cannot be hidden just because the seed was sown in secret. Satan is the father of lies. His track record is that he will do whatever it takes to deceive the people of God. Deception is one of his greatest tools and the Word of God is our greatest weapon against his deception. There isn't anything that can be pulled over on God. Everyone, saint or sinner or hypocrite, will reap what he or she sows.

This applies to those in the political arena; to nations; to family and friends.

Everyone has a field to sow, to cultivate, and finally to reap. We cannot see the see as it grows and develops, but time will reveal it. God allows us to decide what, where and how much – we sow. Every Sunday, Pastor tells us that God loves a cheerful giver. We are to be cheerful in the giving of our time, talents, and resources. Sowing the field of kingdom work, we will reap a harvest of abundant blessings.

## 2. **Verse 8. Which Will You Sow to the Flesh or the Spirit?**

Our life is bounded and governed by laws established and ordained by God. A person reaps what he/she sows is a law that can be easily observed and verified, whether we are sowing to the flesh or sowing to the Spirit. Paul instructed the Galatians that they had a choice to either sow to please the flesh which reap destruction or sow to please the Spirit, which reap eternal life. We cannot reap a good harvest unless we have sown good seed; therefore, we cannot reap eternal life unless we have sown to the Spirit.

There is no possibility for anyone to misunderstand whether we are sowing to the please flesh as opposite to sowing to the pleasing of the Spirit. The works are clearly evident to those who care to see. “Every tree is known by its fruit.”(Luke 6:44)

If you want to know if you are pleasing the flesh, ask yourself if you are doing the works of the flesh. (Galatians 5:19-21)

If you have chosen to sow to please the Spirit, you will walk by the Spirit and live by the Spirit. Your life will cultivate and nurture the fruit of the Spirit; whereby, we will reap eternal life.

### 3. **Verse 9: Don't Become Weary, Keep Doing Good**

We all need encouragement on this life's journey. Paul was encouraging the Galatians to not become overwhelmingly tired, frustrated, discouraged to the point of giving up and turning back to the old ways and selfish nature but to keep pressing on and stay the course. The results of our commitment to living and laboring for the Lord may not be seen immediately or the time of our expectancy but at the proper time – God's own timing, we will be rewarded for our faithfulness.

We must not let our love grow cold or slack off from the work He has called us to. We must remain faithful and know He will reward us in due time.

### 4. **Verse 10: Take Advantage of Each Opportunity**

Everyday we are given opportunities to do good things that bring glory and honor to the Lord. We are to do good to all people, especially those who belong to the family of believers. There are always people who are in need. We have abundance of ministries at 2BC that reaching the needs of those of our church family as well as the needs those in our community and beyond. We are a caring and sharing Church. Folks do not care how much you know until we show how much we care. We may not be able to everything, but we can always do something good to help somebody. The Word of God tells us to make the most of every opportunity given to us. We have the opportunities to share our testimonies, witness about the goodness of God, to share our resources for the furtherance of the gospel in preaching and teaching, the feeding of the hungry, clothing of the naked, and visitation to those who are sick and incarcerated. Nothing we do for the Lord is in vain. Each day we must take advantage of the opportunities to do while it is day because night coming and no man will be able to work.