

Sowing and Reaping

Galatians 6:6-10

Paul now talks about giving in the ministry. He made tents so that he'd not be a burden to the churches he ministered to. Most of us start out that way in ministry, *I made surfboards*. It's humbling to talk about money. But the bible requires it if we are to teach the **whole counsel of God**.

It's not right to **constantly** talk about money but it's also not right to **never** talk about money. Jesus spoke of money 11 of His 39 parables about 15% of His teaching.

6 And let the one who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches.

Share - *koinónéō*: a common sharing-coming into communion or fellowship w/ one another. *Book marker*

Those teaching spiritual treasures & those who are taught these treasures are to share their material treasures. WW. One another fellowship

Paul said of Gentile churches in Rome, that they owe a debt for the spiritual benefits given them by Jewish believers (**first fruits of salvation**) **Rom 15:27...they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things they are indebted to minister to them also in material things.**

The value of the **spiritual** is often seen by what a person is willing to sacrifice of the material things. Jesus said *'where you treasure is there will your heart be also'* **Matt 6:21**

Verse 6 Echo's Lord's words *"The laborer is worth of his hire"* **Lk 10:7** Not only the benefit & growth of ministry but personal benefits to those giving.

Dt 25:4 4 "You shall not muzzle the ox while it is threshing. 1Cor 9:9; 1Tim 5:18-1Cor 9:11 *If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we should reap material things from you?*

M Luther 'It is impossible for one man both to labor day & night to get a living & at the same time to give himself to study of the sacred learning as the preaching offices requires'

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7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Sow/reap wheat/tares flesh/spirit—**immutable law of God** – if *sow wind reap read whirlwind*—**Hosea 8:7** ‘those who plough iniquity and sow trouble shall reap the same’—wonder why their life is so messed up & blame God. *Sow wild oats then pray for crop failure.*

Sow flesh-man in charge *Rom 7:18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the wishing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not. 19 For the good that I wish, I do not do; but I practice the very evil that I do not wish. 20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not wish, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wishes to do good.*

Our nation in the grips of **sowing to flesh**, god of this world is ruling—secular government (Dems 10 yrs ago cancelled God from platform) – abandon ‘**one nation under God**’ & **banning the bible**. **FARMINGTON, Utah** Copies of the Bible are being removed from school library shelves at elementary & junior high facilities in Davis County, Utah, after a complaint that the scriptures feature material inappropriate for younger children. **Schools in 1950’s** **Public school teachers most troublesome issues**-1-talking out of turn, 2-chewing gum, 3-making noise, 4-running in the halls, 5-cutting in line, 6-dress code violations, 7-littering. **Next generation 1990’s** 1-drug abuse, 2-alcohol abuse, 3-pregnancy, 4-suicide, 5-rape, 6-robbery, 7-assault. **Now** ½ generation later 2023 all the above magnified # 1 **mass school shootings (graph)**

There have been 23 school shootings this year 2023 resulting in injuries or deaths, according to an Education Week analysis. There have been 167 shootings since 2018. There were 51 school shootings with injuries or deaths last year 2022, the most in a single year since Education Week began tracking such incidents in 2018.

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Sowing to the spirit, **God in charge**--goes both ways, people to ministry & ministry to people. We invest in what we believe is valuable. To pay for a thing means I place a **high value** on it, I'm invested in it.

The precept of sowing and reaping is found throughout the entire bible. It's God's law that we reap what we sow--cause & effect. **Farmer** sows coffee beans in Kona he gets Kona coffee from beans. Hawaii grows Macadamia nuts & largest growers in US-World famous Mauna Loa because Macadamia farms reaping what sowing. Same w/ papaya, banana, guava, avocado, & specialty tropical fruits, etc

Two kinds of sowing when it comes to material possession--Paul uses **metaphor** of seed when sowing in soil of the flesh or soil of the spirit. **After** we sow the reaping process begins, once started it can't be stopped. What we sow we will reap. Some *sow their wild oats & pray God kill the harvest*—sow to gambling, drugs, sex, etc outcome--gone forever-our moral life **5:16-25** character is shaped by conduct-**sow thought, reap action, sow action, reap habit, sow habit, reap character, sow character, reap destiny**—Perishable things are temporal things those of the flesh. Eternal things are spiritual things those walking in the spirit.

Matt 6:19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 'lay not treasures on earth where moth... **Conclusion: invest in spiritual things**

When we sow to spirit, the reaping remains forever-**eternal rewards**. **Also** replanting & replanting from generation to generation so that the work of God continue until Jesus returns. Also the principle of measurement when sowing **2Cor 9:6,7** ***Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. 7 Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.***

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False teachers were using the churches to enrich themselves—not feeding the flock but fleecing the flock. Happened in *2Cor 11:20 For you bear with anyone if he enslaves you, if he devours you, if he takes advantage of you, if he exalts himself, if he hits you in the face.*

God's principle of promised blessings also has a principle of waiting for God to bring it to pass—God's timing. So Paul tells us

9 And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.

Serving others is tiring yet rewards are coming—harvest takes time when sowing what is good into the lives of others.

We can get weary in doing the work God has called us to. And over time can lose heart or fainting—giving up & giving in to the frustration & fatigue of dealing w/ people & problems—then what God has us doing stops. Paul is seeing the negative outcomes in ministry w/ those experiencing inner weariness. Heart-sick feelings affecting inner strength-growing weak-being tired out-**spiritless**

Causes? **1**-Devotional life is lacking—Laboring for Lord but no time w/ Lord. **2**-Prayer life lacking *Lk 18:1 Men ought always to pray and not to faint'*

Sowing spiritual things into lives, will in time, see fruit the word of God produces—so we are to do good & share all good things—**dead sea and sea of Galilee –inlet no outlet, inlet & outlet.** *One another koinonia*

11 See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.

Paul writes w/ own hand w/o secretary (Tertius Rom 16:22) because of seriousness of issues covered. Bad eyesight forced him to write w/ large characters. **Ophthalmia**--bacterial infection, funj, virus, Malaria or physical trauma