

Woodland Baptist Church  
 Morning Worship – December 2, 2012  
 Galatians 6:6-10 Sowing and Reaping

1) INTRODUCTION

2) READ GALATIANS 6:6-10

- a. **6 Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. 7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.**

3) The Principles of SOWING and REAPING

- a. **7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.**
- i. **Genesis 8:22** - 22 While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."
  - ii. Here we see a principle of order and consistency written into all of life, material and moral.
    1. A farmer's harvest is directly proportionate to the amount he sows...if he sows wheat...he will reap wheat...if he sows cotton, he will reap cotton, if he sows rice, he will reap rice...if he sows nothing, he will reap nothing.
    2. If he sows good seed, the crop will be good if bad, bad.
- b. We see the same principle at work in the moral and spiritual world - *Whatever one sows, that will he also reap* -
- i. **Job 4:8** - As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same.
  - ii. **Hosea 8:7** -For they sow the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind. The standing grain has no heads; it shall yield no flour; if it were to yield, strangers would devour it.
  - iii. **Isaiah 55:10-11** - "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

- c. ***Do not be deceived: God is not mocked*** - God is giving us a clear warning that along with being deceived about works salvation, we can also be deceived about sowing and reaping. [one of the areas that false teachers exploit]
- i. How are we deceived?
    1. We sow thoughtlessly, nonchalantly, ignorant of the realization that everything we sow has a consequence.
    2. We sow on kind of seed, expecting to reap another, thinking we can get away with it...***God is not mocked!***
  - ii. Mocked [mykterizo] - to treat with contempt - to turn up the nose at someone in contempt.
    1. Men may think they can escape the law of seedtime and harvest, but in the end they are only deceiving themselves.
- d. There are **three spheres** of Christian Experience in which Paul sees the principle operating

#### 4) Verses - We must sow SUPPORT for our INSTRUCTORS

- a. **6 Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches.**
- i. Constant criticism is NOT a good thing - occasional is needed...but constant is sinful!
  - ii. **one who is taught** [katecheo] - report, teach; to teach in a systematic or detailed manner.
  - iii. share all good things....
    1. share [koinoneo] to share one's possessions with the implication of some kind of joint participation and mutual interest.
    2. all good things [agathos] - anything that is understood as beneficial (financial, material, spiritual).
  - iv. One who teaches [katecheo] same as above -
- b. The Bible is very clear about supporting those that are central in the teaching ministries of the church. Those of us who are taught the Word of God by a teacher, should in turn support the teacher by any and all material and immaterial means.
- i. **Luke 10:7** - the laborer deserves his wages
  - ii. **1 Corinthians 9:11** - If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits?
- c. Abuses of these principles: ministerial laziness & congregational control
- i. Ministerial laziness - no one really tells us what to do, so we can get away with things people in the normal business world cannot.

- ii. Congregational control - because they pay us, they think they get to control us.

5) **Verses - What we SOW will eventually SHOW**

a. **8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.**

- i. Paul moves from the particular to the general, from Christian ministers and their support to Christian people and their moral behavior.

1. Gal 5:16-25 - the battle between flesh and spirit

- ii. In 6:8, the life is likened to a country estate and the flesh and spirit are two fields in which we may sow seed.

- iii. How can we expect to reap the fruit of the Spirit if we do not sow in the field of the Spirit?

1. Sow a thought, reap an act; sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny.

b. **Two types of Sowing:**

- i. Sowing in the flesh - sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.

1. How do we sow into this? Pander to the desires, cuddle them, stroke them, give in to them instead of crucifying them. We must not harbor a grudge, nurse a grievance, entertain impure fantasy, or wallow in self pity.

2. Some Christian sow into the flesh everyday and wonder why they never reap holiness! It's impossible when you sow into the flesh constantly.

- ii. Sowing in the Spirit - 'set our mind on the Spirit,' But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law; we foster spiritual disciplines that will "build" in the Spirit; church involvement, prayer, learning Scripture, giving of yourself and your offerings..etc.

c. **Two types of Results:**

i. **Fleshly sowing = reaps corruption**

1. State of ruin or destruction with the implication of disintegration - like a rotting vegetable or dead body that becomes putrid after a couple of days - eventually it decays to nothing and is absolutely disgusting - smells bad, looks bad,

and no one wants to go near it unless they have have rubber gloves on.

2. Reaping corruption - means ultimately spiritually the second death, the lake of fire, eternity in hell.

ii. **Spiritual sowing = reaps eternal life**

1. state of eternal existence - your body may be decaying but your Spirit is in Christ Jesus and one day so will your body.
- d. What type of sowing characterizes your life? Are you sowing in the flesh or in the Spirit?

6) **Verses - We sow first to our FAMILY then all OTHERS**

- a. **9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.**
  - i. **Let us not grow weary of doing good** - sounds like Paul was speaking from experience there for sure - it was not too long ago he said, "I fear I have labored over you in vain." So this had to somewhat be written to himself as he thought about the Galatians.
  - ii. Why should we not grow weary? **For in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.**
    1. **Due season? What is due season?** More agricultural metaphorical language meaning that we don't always see the harvest immediately...as the physical harvest of plants takes time with the farmer, the spiritual harvest takes time...especially if its real.
    2. **If we do not give up...**we wouldn't stop midway through the farming year would we? No, we would keep pressing on because we know that if we stop, our harvest will be greatly diminished...we must press on...no matter how few laborers we have...we must press on....
- b. The first place we don't give up is in the *household of faith* - Paul had not given up on these Galatians! Even though they were threatening to abandon everything he had taught them! He hung in there with them and refuted error and tried to correct their misunderstandings. We don't need to give up on one another either. We have members of our household corporately and individually and we are tired of dealing with them. Tired of it - they don't listen anyway do they? I beat my head against a wall trying to teach them the right way...and what do they do?? They fall in the same hole they did last time and this time they fell deeper.
  - i. The Word tells us to not grow faint...to not grow weary from doing good - why? Because we are sowing in the Spirit and God is keeping

count and one day it will pay a rich, rich reward beyond anything we can imagine.

- c. James 5:7 - Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains.

7) **CLOSE**