

“The Truth As We Know It”
The Law Of The Harvest
Sowing & Reaping

5/3/15

Today I want to talk about another divine principle of God that is absolute. That is the Law of the Harvest. This is an absolute law! I want to read from Galatians 6:7-8, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." And also from Job 4:8 "Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same."

Notice! God is not mocked! We cannot sow our wild oats and pray for a bad crop and expect God to answer our prayer! If we repent, God will forgive us, but there are always scars and memories that torment us for all our lives! And, depending on the seriousness of the sin, there are consequences that we will have to pay even though we are forgiven.

God does give us a time to repent before the harvest comes up and bears fruit. One of the principles of the harvest is that the fruit can not be harvested immediately after it has been sown. That is also true in the spiritual harvest. We read in 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Also in Rom 2:4-6 we read, "Or do you despise the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? But after thy hardness and unrepentant heart treasure up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds:" God is patient with us because He wants no-one to be lost! After all He sent His only

begotten Son, Jesus, to die a cruel death so that we would not have to be lost! If we truly repent from our sin right away after we have done something stupid, only you and God will ever know about it. But if we continue in the sin, pretty soon everyone around us will know of our shame!

It is because we are not immediately punished, we often think we are getting by with sins that are surely ensnaring us into a trap we cannot escape from without God's deliverance. In Ecclesiastes 8:11 we read, "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

God will hold us to account for what we do, good or bad! We read in Exodus 34:6-7, ... "The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation." This scripture lets us know that our sins affect our children for generations to come! Decisions we make today affect generations yet unborn!

Another principle of the harvest is that whatever we sow, we get more in return! No farmer would bother to plant a crop if he did not have hope that he would get more than he planted in return. This is true for whatever we sow, good or bad. The Apostle Paul tells in 2 Co 9:6 and we read, "But this I say, He which sows sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which sows bountifully shall reap also bountifully." There is a powerful adage that tells the truth about sin in very simple terms. **"Sin will take you farther than you want to go, keep you longer than you want to stay, cost you more than you want to pay."**

We all need to remember the admonition from Jesus when He says in John 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

All of us fall short on occasion, even after we are saved! But we need to heed the instruction in 1 John 2:1-2 where we read, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

The good news is that the same is true if we are sowing to righteousness! If we are sowing in the spirit of God we will reap a great harvest of blessings in all of the promises of God. I love the promises of blessings from Deu 28:1-14 and I will quote a portion of it here, paraphrased... "It shall come to pass, if you will hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, .. that the LORD your God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee,.. . Blessed shall you be in the city,.. and in the field. Blessed shall be your children, your ground, your cattle, ...Blessed shall be your bank account, your travel, your property, and everything you set your hand to do. Your neighbors will see the result of God's blessing in your life. God will see to it that you and your family have plenty of everything you need. You will even have the means to lend to others and not have to borrow. God will put you into His leadership team to lead others. Even those who would stand against you will have nothing to say."

Wow, what a promise! All of this is contingent on our following God and His word in every way. Sad to say, it is only through the Grace of God that any of us can come even

close to meeting that standard, but the promise of God's blessing in our life is there if we sow unto righteousness. I highly recommend that everyone read the whole chapter of Deuteronomy 28. The first 14 verses tell of God's blessings, to rest of the chapter tell us of the consequences of sin.

Though I do not subscribe to the prosperity doctrine that is taught by many Television teachers today, I believe the promises of God that if we honor God, pay our tithe, give to the needy around us, pay our honest debts on time, don't waist our funds on frivolous things we will be very blessed in this world.

I was raised of a farm in Northern Indiana and as a child I always wanted to be a farmer when I grew up. But God had a different plan for my life. I guess I am still a farmer at heart, though I am now sowing God's word and seeing a harvest of souls, though not as many as I would like. I remember some important principles of farming that apply in the spirit as well. One is that you can sow all day every day and if the ground you are sowing in is not properly prepared you will not receive a harvest. It takes cultivation! Proper preparation and follow through. It is only when we prepare the ground through cultivation, sow the seed, allow time to grow, then thrust in the cycle of harvest that we are successful! The Apostle Paul tells us in 1Corinthians 3:6, and 9, and we read, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. For we are laborers together with God:.." So it is only with God's anointing and blessing that we can be successful.

This radio broadcast is part of my hope to be able to share the Gospel into my waning years because I am no longer a young man and want to continue to be productive for the Lord as long as the Lord gives me the strength to do so. I want to be more productive! I am reminded of the scripture in John 15:1-2 and we read, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. ... every branch that bears fruit, he purges it, that it may bring forth more fruit." I

want to bear more fruit!

Hear the prayer of Jesus! In Mat 9:36-38, "When he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then said He unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." Will you join us as laborers in God's great harvest field?

Listen again next week.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we might be saved. Atheism is a temporary condition, for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Jesus stands ready to save you now, Will you call on Him today?

Until next week, God bless.