

**“The Truth As We Know It”**  
**The Law Of The Harvest**  
**The Joy of the Harvest**

5/17/15

Last week I talked about the law of the harvest. It will take several weeks to cover this subject thoroughly, but this is such an important subject that I don't want to short cut any of it. So please listen each week to get the full story as I see it. Reading from Gal 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." This week I want to talk about our sowing in the Spirit.

There are great rewards and joys for God to be use us to share the Gospel. To be called of God to represent Him as a spokesman is reward enough, but that is not our only reward. There are many things that make working in the harvest field very fulfilling.

There is nothing that gives greater comfort than to know that you are in God's will. That your life is blessed in your family, and your spiritual life is maturing.

I have felt the excitement of seeing the young and old yield their hearts to the Lord in surrender to faith in Christ in the saving knowledge of the Gospel. I remember the very first time I was able to lead a young man to receive Christ. I rejoiced over that for several weeks. To know that God would trust me to share the greatest news that was ever given to change the eternal outcome of someone's life.

That favorite of all scriptures in John 3:16 says and we quote, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." It is a whosoever message!

And in 2Pe 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." And in Heb 7:25 we read, "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever lives to make intercession for them."

Even in that great story where Jesus talked with the Samaritan woman that came to Jacob's well to draw water that had been married several times. The story is told in the fourth chapter of John. The Apostles had gone to town to buy food but when they returned Jesus was no longer hungry. I can see the excitement that even Jesus had in sharing the good news with someone new, John 4:34 we read, "Jesus said unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work."

Jesus went on to say in, John 4:35-38, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit unto life eternal: that both he that sows and he that reaps may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One sows, and another reaps. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labor: other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors."

That admonition is true today just as it was when Jesus said it 2000 years ago. We are working in conjunction with God as is told in 1Cor 3:6-9, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that plants any thing, neither he that waters; but God that gives the increase. Now he that plants and he that waters are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."

At best, we are representatives of Jesus Christ as His ambassadors as we read in 2Cor 5:20, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."

The Apostle Paul tells us in 1Cor 9:16-18, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a

reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel."

He also tells us in Rom 1:14-16, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

There are material rewards in sharing the Gospel. If God hires us to do something, He will pay us well. In John 4:36, Jesus tells us, "And he that reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit unto life eternal: that both he that sows and he that reaps may rejoice together." That is not only do we receive wages in this life, but we also have an eternal reward.

Paul tells us in 1Cor 9:9-10, "For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treads out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? Or said he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that plows should plow in hope; and that he that threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope."

I can identify with the Apostle Paul in what he said in 1Thes 2:19-20 and we read, "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? For ye are our glory and joy."

I rejoice when I see those who have come through our school, Piedmont Christian Academy, and church and watch them mature and take on responsibilities as leaders in church as ministers in their own rites and see them minister to others that need to hear the Gospel. I can say with Paul that they are my reward and joy.

To be a soul winner is to be a wise person with a great reward awaiting them in glory. In Dan 12:3 we read, "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

When the Apostle Paul neared the end of his ministry, he did not grieve or

beg for his life, but rather rejoiced in his labors for the Lord. In 2Tim 4:6-8 we read, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." And in Phip 2:16-18 we read, "Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain. Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all. For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me."

My prayer is that when my time comes, I can rejoice too, and look with anticipation to see my Lord and all those whose lives I have affected in a positive way.

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.