

SOWING AND REAPING

Int.

1. Aim: To show five lessons we can learn from the text about sowing and reaping.
2. Gal. 6:7-9 "Be not **deceived**; God is not **mocked**: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also **reap**. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."
 - a. Do not allow anyone to pull the wool over your eyes
 - b. Can't turn up nose at God and say it will happen another way.
 - c. Men often deceive themselves, but never do we deceive God
 - i. Satan has deceived man from the beginning of time
 - ii. In Rev. 12:9 he is called the deceiver of the whole world
 - d. We cannot override the plans and arrangements of God. No one can fool or defeat God.
 - e. Gal. 6:7 "Be not tricked; God is not made sport of: for whatever seed a man puts in, that will he get back as grain." (BBE)
3. Five lessons we can learn
 - a. Nothing new - we all know these things
 - b. Remind you of these things

Discussion

I. EVERYONE OF US IS SOWING

- A. We are living a responsible life.
 1. We are all here by the will of someone else
 - a. Parents - Ultimately God - created and placed in man power to reproduce
 - b. God made us in his image and gave us a spirit.
 2. God created universe and placed us here to decide where we will spend eternity
 - a. Purpose of life --- to decide where we will be in eternity
 - b. Not just to make money - be popular
 - c. Not just to get married and have children.
 - d. Greatest decision is what are you going to do with God

- B. Mt. 7:24 -27 - - two builders
 - 1. Wise - hear & do = they will stand on judgment
 - 2. Foolish - Hear & do not = these will not stand on judgment

- C. We are doing something every hour and every day -that is doing something to us that will have some effect on our life. We are all sowing.

II. WE ARE SOWING ONE OF TWO KINDS OF SEED

- A. Either this one or that one .
 - 1. Can't sow both at same time.
 - 2. May change from one to another.
 - 3. We are free to choose.

- B. FLESH or SPIRIT
 - 1. SPIRIT -
 - a. Recognize soul is worth more than the flesh
 - b. Things of eternity are worth more than temporal
 - c. Heavenly city is worth more than all earthly gain - Matt.16:26
 - d. Greatest life is to be servant of God
 - e. Love his Church more than anything else .
 - f. Know truth, obey it, Live a life of dedication - Mt. 6:33
 - 2. Flesh - let any other way of life come first
- C. We are sowing to one or the other - not both

III. EVERY ONE OF US WILL REAP A HARVEST

- A. Farmers illustrate that this may not be true
 - 1. Farmers sow their crops and expect to receive a harvest
 - 2. Sometimes they do not reap a harvest
 - a. Drought - freeze - insects - disease
 - b. Sometimes the crop is not worth harvesting and they plow it under

B. This is not the case with our life. There will be a harvest.

1. Jn. 5:28-29
 - a. Good = spirit
 - b. Evil = flesh
 - c. All will come forth and reap
2. Heb. 9:27
3. We will stand individually before God
 - a. Rm. 14:12
 - b. I I Cor. 5:10

IV. WE WILL REAP MORE THAN WE SOW

A. Farmers illustrate

1. Foolish for a farmer to sow and not get more
 - a. Corn - 1 kernel = one stalk with 2 to 3 ears and 700 + grains
 - b. Why do the work if there is not a increase
2. There would be no gardeners or farmers if we did not reap more than we sow.

B. Spirit - Reap life - Mk. 10:28-30

1. Sowing seed to spirit in this life
2. Reap more than we sow
3. Hundredfold in this life
4. In the world to come eternal life.
5. Blessings that come to Christians

C. Flesh - corruption

1. Reap corruption - degradation
2. Alcohol - drugs = destroy life and bring miseries

D. Eternal life and eternal death

1. HEAVEN - Rev. 21
 - a. Described in figurative language
 - b. Beyond our ability to grasp how wonderful it will be

- c. Some things beyond our ability to understand
 - (1) Try to explain calculus to a 3 year old
 - (2) God has described Heaven in terms of our experience

2. HELL

- a. Rev. 20:10-15
- b. Fire is most terrible pain we can imagine
- c. Big furnace - fall into it - but only last a few seconds
- d. Not true of Hell - no end to punishment II Thes. 1:7-9

- E. The only way to avoid hell is by the grace of God - Jn. 3:16
- F. We will reap more than we sow

V. GOD IS NOT MOCKED

A. None of us can turn up our nose at God

- 1. If God says that if we sow to the flesh (anything that is between us and putting church first) that we will reap corruption then we cannot reap life everlasting.
- 2. It is impossible to sow watermelon seed and reap oranges.

B. Illustration

- 1. Suppose you buy a farm and want to raise some Hereford cows. A man says, I have a pair of fine hogs and you can start your herd with them. Foolish and ridiculous.
- 2. God is not mocked. We reap what we sow.

C. Illustration

- 1. South Pacific - men walking through dense forest and came across an orange tree. Some one had dropped or planted an orange seed there many years before.
- 2. They had not dropped a tomato seed.

D. That - shall he reap

- 1. Sow to flesh = reap corruption
- 2. Sow to spirit= reap life everlasting.

E. Gal. 6:9

- 1. Do not give up and quit
- 2. If we faint = quit sowing to spirit and start sowing to flesh
- 3. Do not get discouraged and loose your soul.

Conclusion

1. God is not Mocked - do not deceive yourself or let anyone else
2. The purpose of life is to prepare for eternity.
3. These five lessons will help us all to prepare
 - a. Everyone of us is sowing
 - b. We are sowing one of two kinds of seed
 - c. Everyone of us will reap a harvest
 - d. We will reap more than we sow
 - e. God is not mocked
4. Gal. 6:7-9
5. Sow to the Spirit
 - a. Hear
 - b. Believe
 - c. Repent
 - d. Confess
 - e. Be Baptized
 - f. Salvation

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