

Sow and Reap

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic
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After God saved Noah and his family from 40 days and nights of flood, the first thing that Noah did was to build an altar and make a sacrifice to the Lord. God was so pleased with him and made promises to humanity through his faith. One of the promises given was the principle of seedtime and harvest (Genesis 8:22). Life begins by this principle; harvest springs from the good or bad seeds we have sown.

The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13: 1-9) is a perfect example of God as the farmer who sows/plants His words into our hearts (soil) and how we respond to the good news of the Gospel.

Different types of heart:

1. Hard heart (Pathway)- It pertains to Christians whose hearts are dictated by free will and choose to turn a deaf ear to the teachings of the Scripture. They have turned stubborn and have decided to do wrong though they have known this is not pleasing to God.

2. Shallow Heart (Rocky Soil)- It represents Christians with shallow commitments whose decisions are dictated by emotions. They listen to God's Word, but when they are tested, they easily turn their back against the Lord.

3. Thorny Heart (Thorny Ground)- This signifies believers who have heard and have accepted the Good News but they have compromised their faith by prioritizing worldly concerns (money, fame, business). They are easily lured by earthly cares and eventually forget God.

4. Good Heart (Good Soil)- It symbolizes Christians who hear the Word and understand it. They live in God's Scripture and present a healthy and positive attitude towards others. They think of ways to guide those who hunger and thirst for God.

Christians with good heart will always stand for truth as Christ's followers.

Moreover, good soil is guaranteed to produce a hundred-fold. As Jesus said, when a seed falls into the good soil, it sinks deeply to the ground, takes root and produces good fruit. We must remember that there is no heart that God can never soften, nor trials and testing that God cannot overcome. When we remain with God, we bear fruits and these are His assurances for us (*John 15:5-8*).

In addition, to be God's farmers in His kingdom, we must be patient and should not look on the weather nor the season; for those who plant in tears will reap joy (Psalms 126:5-6). We must be more eager to tell others about Jesus' love and blessings and be diligent to sow day and night. Let it be our decision to remain faithful until the desired result is achieved.

Conclusion:

Let us not grow weary and tired for the works of God, for in due time great rewards await us. There may be thorns, thistles, and weeds that will come along the pathway of our lives that will try to squeeze out our faith, but we should not focus on ourselves nor on the situation but focus on what God can do. We must always be prepared and should not be like a shallow ground. We should always settle our hearts and minds to God, so we may win souls through the gift of the Holy Spirit (Hosea 10:12).

Reflection:

1. Are we sowing today, that we may reap good harvest in due season?
2. Have we examined our hearts lately and asked how God can enter into our lives?
3. Are we ready to be God's farmers in His kingdom?

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#Tags: worldly concerns, word of God, parable