

Reward for Sowing the Good Seed

“5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. 6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” (Psalm 126: 5-6 KJV)

Sowing is a season of mourning and sadness, because the farmers and those who are involved in farming will put all what they have from capital under the ground. All what they have of seed and fertilizer to prepare the soil are not with them but under the ground; therefore they will live in the expectation of getting something out from the things they invested in the fields.

Living in this life for God and to do God’s will is like sowing the good seed; putting all your capital and what you have for Him. Jesus Christ came from Heaven; He lived His life for God doing God’s will. He gave His life for all mankind; He died on the cross for our sins, He was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to bring us to God and to give us eternal life. Jesus’ life is like the good seed that was sown under the ground by His death on the cross, and later on rose from death to bring salvation to mankind and great harvest for God. Jesus spoke about that as well when he said, *“24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.” (John 12:24 KJV)*

Our lives should be sown in this life as Jesus offered His life to God, *“15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.” (2 Corinthians 5:15 KJV)* Sowing our lives to God it involves the following:

I. Giving up the sinful life: * As we come to the Lord and live our lives unto Him we need to give up the life of sin. Renouncing our entire shortcomings and moving away from the worldly life toward holiness and Godliness. * Giving up involves the giving up of our own self ambition, our selfishness, and our own plans and will and accepting God’s plan and will in our lives. * Giving up it involves giving up our bad habits, cultural and social worthless traditions and giving up the old religions. * Giving up it might involve and required to move away from old friends and certain communities and fellowships to go along the will of God and to live in holiness.

II. Giving your lives to God and for His Word: *“10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10 KJV)* When God call us He had prepared good works for us to do so we need to offer our lives and body parts fully unto God, *“13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” (Romans 6:13 KJV)*

The question here is it worthy to live our lives for Christ? Or in another word does giving up the above things and invest our lives fully to God will be rewarded? *“29 And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God’s sake, 30 Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.” (Luke 18:29-30 KJV)*

What are the seeds that we need to sow in this life?

1. Our lives testimonies: Our lives should be God’s testimonies. As we read about Jesus’ life in the Bible we take that as an example to follow God. And as we read the stories of those who follow God in the Bible we take lessons of how to follow God. In the same way as we follow Christ others will see us and will start to follow Christ; we will be the good example for them and a challenge for them to follow God and walk in His ways.

2. Prayer: Every prayer is a powerful weapon; we need to continually; *“17 Pray without ceasing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:17 KJV)* We need not to give up praying, God will lead us from victory to victory as we trust God and continue to pray. As result of our prayers, more souls will come to Christ, more disciples will be made and more sick get healing and more people get delivered from demons and the power of Satan. And what else you need to do? *“18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV)* We need always to be grateful to God and to what he had given to us and to what He had asked us to do and serve Him.

3. Forgiveness: Not easy to forgive, but that is part of sowing our lives to God. Forgetting and leaving behind all the hurts and the harms we had received knowing that our battle not against people who hurt us but against Satan who deceived them to do that. Knowing and admitting the grace of God to us that in forgiving others our sins are forgiven as we pray, *“12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” (Matthew 6:12 KJV)*

4. Giving our tithes, firstfruits and various offerings unto God: *“6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.” (2 Corinthians 9:6 KJV)* Whatever you give and sow from money for God’s work it will be given back to you and with more harvest.

5. Giving hands and caring for others: * Someone had cared for you and he had His reward, now God is calling you to care for others and you will have your reward. * Caring can be accomplished by one or more of the following: Prayer, giving the right advice and message from the Word of God, material support, and physical aid.

6. Evangelism and making disciples: *“19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” (Matthew 28:19-20 KJV)* God call us to use all our resources and all the gifts of the Holy Spirit to reach the lost, preaching to them the message of salvation and making new disciples from those who believe by teaching them the Word of God and baptizing them.

“5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. 6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” (Psalm 126: 5-6 KJV) We spoke earlier and considered why sowing time is considered a season of sadness and why the farmer will go out in the season of sowing with tears, and we answered and said, because the farmer had invested all what he had to arrange for the seed. He had put all his capital for that and he does not know what will be the outcome of all his work and the profit for all the investment that he had. For there will be certain times troubles and

discouragements that will come along the way and disturb what the farmer had planted and sowed and will affect greatly his harvest. * As well as in certain times there are events that will come along the way and disturb us, cause us discouragement and make us sad and render the sowing of our lives for Jesus a sad process. * Now we will read certain Scriptures and we will take out certain points that would encourage us and give us better understanding, so we can go forward with faith and more enthusiasm to serve God.

A. From the Parable of the sower we get encouragement: “3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow; 4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up: 5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: 8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. 18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. 19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side. 20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; 21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. 22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. 23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23 KJV)

From the parable of the sower we can see that the seed can fall on four types of soils. Some seeds fell by the way side, some fell on stony places. Other seeds fell among thorns and still others fell on good ground. Those that fell by the way side, those are the people when we give to them the Word of God the evil one, the devil, come and snatch away what was sown in their hearts. The seed falling on stony places are those who receive our message perhaps with gladness but when trials, troubles and persecutions will come because of the Word of God the people will fall away because they have no roots. The seed that is falling among the thorns are those who hear the message but worries, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desire of other things will come in and choke the Word of God and we found them moving away from the Lord and living their own lives and doing their own will. For the first three types of people we invest our best to bring the Word of God to them and serve them, but there is no outcome from their lives and that discourages us and makes us daunted to go on and sow more. But that is not the truth yet. There is still the fourth type of people where the seed fall on good soil and those are the people who hear the Word of God and understand it and put it into practice and produce a harvest and bringing more souls into the Kingdom of God. So whatever your hard work and effort that you are investing do not look on those who are not responding to the message or willing to follow God carefully, but on those who are responding and bringing fruit that replace and compensate what you had lost.

B. From Jesus' Word we get encouragement: “38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.” (John 4:38 KJV) Certain times we work hard to achieve certain things but some other people getting the benefit of our labor. * That really might cause you discouragement. But there are many times

that you had reaped what other people had worked hard and labored. * Therefore even if I am serving and working hard and some of my labor got benefited by other believers that is fine and acceptable because this is the work of God. I should accept that gladly, and after all this is God's work and for God's glory. * In the same way I may got blessed with something that I even did not get a drop of sweet; this will compensate what I had labored and other got blessed with. * Therefore do not be discouraged if someone else benefited of your hard work, and don't take the decision that you will not serve further because you are not getting directly the fruit of your toil.

C. From Paul's writing we get encouragement: “5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. 9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.” (1 Corinthians 3:5-9 KJV) We are working for God and everyone had assigned a certain task that he needs to do and achieve for the Lord. Some they plant the seed, others will water it, and some will harvest but the reward of God depends on our labor and not on how much we harvested. Therefore if you got discouraged and are not willing to do your part in the work of God then how God will reward you?!!

My Dear and Beloved: “58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 15:58 KJV) * You need to take the message of the Lord by heart and invest your life fully unto God and sow a good seed in this life. * Living your life for Christ in giving up lot of the worldly things and giving your life fully for Him is great sacrifice and suffering but you will be rewarded for that. * We may mourn now on earth but we will be comforted as well, “4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.” (Matthew 5:4 KJV) God will reward us for every effort we have done for Him.

“7 Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.” (2 Chronicles 15:7 KJV) God's Word encourage us to go forward and continue to sow in doing the good works of God and not to give up because a great reward is awaiting for us if we do not give up. Let us pray ...

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that teach me how to sow the good seed and to live my life for you and how to be effective in my service and ministry unto you. Lord thank you for the various resources that you placed in my hand and the opportunities that you gave me to serve you. Lord thank for all the teaching, the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins and commit yourself to serve Him. Confess and renounce all the works of the flesh in your life; telling lies, deceiving, cheating, stealing, abuse, taking advantage, fights, anger, rage, hatred, revenge, un-forgiveness, grudge and bitterness, division, pride, selfishness, lack of concern toward others, envy, jealousy, murder, lust, immoralities, greed, injustice, corruption, worldliness, and your love for money and material things. Confess and renounce your non willingness to give up your old traditional, religious and cultural practices that contradict the Word of God. Confess and

renounce your fear of man and your non willingness to pass through persecution. Confess and renounce your lack of faith and the doubts in your mind. Confess and renounce your lack of trust in God. Confess and renounce your ungratefulness, your grumbling and complaining. Confess and renounce that you are doing your own will and plans and not the will of God and His plan in your life. Confess and renounce your lack of reading God's Word and life of prayers. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, with friends and in bondage with the Media, News and games. Confess and renounce your bad stewardship, wasting your resources, lack of tithing and giving to God. Confess and renounce your non willingness to serve God by caring to others and aid them in their troubles. Confess and renounce your laziness, your complacency your bad example and your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Confess and renounce your non willingness to forgive those who had hurt you. Confess and renounce your bad testimony and your non willingness to go and evangelize and make disciples. Lord forgive me, I repent from the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to serve you and to fix my eyes always on you and on your Word and your promises. Lord I commit my life to live for you wholeheartedly and to sow the good seed in this life. Lord I give up and renounce the following things _____.
Lord I commit myself to the content of the message in doing what it says. Lord I am willing to go forward to do the good works that you had prepared for me to do. Lord I commit myself not to get discourage and not to give up. Lord help me, strengthen me and protect me during all trials and deliver me from the evil one so I can continue to go on and serve you, trusting you that you will reward me for all my labor unto you, this is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who had repented and committed their lives to live for you and to serve you. Lord I pray for them to have more faith and trust in you that whatever they will do of service and labor they will be rewarded by you. Lord continue to encourage them so they will be changed by you in order to go and do your work and to be fruitful and faithful in what you had entrusted to them. Lord protect them, provide for them and give them good health and strength to accomplish their ministry and the assignments that you entrusted to them.

Lord I pray for us as a Church of God that we will continue to be faithful to you; serving you wholeheartedly and using all resources fruitfully and making the most of all the opportunities to bring the harvest to you. Lord we commit ourselves to continue to teach your people to be good steward, and direct them according to your Word, will and your plans for them. Lord I pray for more evangelism and more Bible studies and congregations to be planted and more workers to be trained. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts so that we continue to serve you. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come to take us. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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