

Galatians: Christ Has Set Us Free
Lesson 12 “Sowing and Reaping”

I. Introduction and Review - Paul wrote this book to give an revelation of grace and what the true gospel is. He wrote in a very emphatic and dogmatic and sort of in your face style.

A. Paul was writing to churches in Galatia that he founded on his first missionary journey (*Acts 13-14*). These churches were founded in approximately 48 A.D.

1. Paul wrote Galatians about 3 years after he founded these churches to counter the teaching of the Judaizers. The Judaizers had come in and begin to say that these Christians had to continue to believe in Jesus but also live by the Mosaic law to be right with God. Watered down the gospel. Paul called their teaching of mixture a different gospel and said that those that taught it were accursed.
2. The main point of the letter is we are saved by putting faith in God’s grace. We cannot add to what Jesus did for us to get saved, maintain our salvation, and/or to receive any of the blessings of God like healing, prosperity, etc.

B. Last week we studied *Galatians 5:16-25* about how to walk in the spirit. This is not done through striving, but is done through dependency on the grace of God. It happens through our intimacy with Jesus and this is what causes us to bear fruit.

C. Tonight we are going to examine the principle of sowing and reaping that Paul discusses in *Galatians 6*. This principle helps answer multiple questions.

1. How to restore a fallen brother or sister (do we sow pride and reap the consequences of pride or do we sow humility).
2. Behavior - Just because we are under grace and God isn’t judging us when we sin doesn’t mean there aren’t consequences.
3. Finances - We reap what we sow financially. We are called to sow into the church. We don’t do this to not be punished, we do this to support the ministry and because giving is the seed of faith we sow that releases our harvest.

II. Sowing and Reaping

A. **Galatians 5:26-6:5**

1. ***Galatians 5:26-Galatians 6:1*** Paul warns believers who begin to walk in the spirit to not become conceited and turning others off on the gospel.
 - a. Why? When we begin to walk in the spirit and see behavior change, it’s easy to think I’ve arrived, why can’t everyone else “get it” and arrive.

b. We are to restore people in a spirit of gentleness, considering our own weakness after the flesh or we will be tempted. **The principle of sowing and reaping applies because if God pride goes before a fall.**

2. **Galatians 6:2** We are to bear up one another's burdens (idea is of a heavy load, more than one person can carry.) We are called to help carry others when they cannot carry themselves. This fulfills the royal law of love **James 2:8**.
3. **Galatians 6:3** This passage ties back into the concept from **verse 1**. We need to maintain an attitude of humility. In Christ, we can do all things, apart from Christ we can do nothing.
4. **Galatians 6:4** We are called to examine our own work. This isn't to condemn ourselves if we don't measure up, it is examine is our life in line with our faith.
5. **Verse 5** is an apparent contradiction of **verse 2**. It's not. The word for burden in **verse 2** is a heavy load, while in **verse 5** is a smaller load like one would carry in a backpack. **The summation of all of this is we need to learn to be spiritually and emotionally healthy people who can take care of ourselves so we can help others. There is no shame in asking for help if we need it, but we shouldn't be the perpetually needy person for years. Be humble and get help.**

B. Galatians 6:6-10

1. These passages are talking about finances. **1 Timothy 5:18-19**. This is a quotation of **Deuteronomy 25:4**. The principle is it scriptural to take care of good ministers. How can churches grow if the minister can't focus on God and the people?
2. We reap what we sow. **Genesis 8:22** *As long as the earth remains, seedtime and harvest will not cease.* **This is a principle. If you sow money, you reap money. If you sow love, you reap love. If you sow friendship, you reap friendship. If you sow strife, you reap strife. We sow where we want to go.**
 - a. This is why Jesus said if someone takes your tunic, give him your cloak also. It's not about getting taking advantage of, it's about demonstrating the heart of God and sowing it as seed to reap a better harvest.
3. Let us not grow weary in well doing. Ex: my story about believing for finances and it looked like none were coming for years and the Lord spoke this verse to me and said the reason he put it in the Bible is because it's normal to grow weary in well doing when we are seeing and not seeing what we are believing for. **Don't be natural; be supernatural and believe in the seed.**
4. **Verse 10** We should be good to all, especially other believers.

III. Conclusion

A. Opportunity to give - **Galatians 6:7**

B. Pray Closing Prayer and Call Up Prayer Team..