

LAW OF THE HARVEST

FOR OUR LESSON THIS MORNING FRIENDS TURN THE BOOK OF GAL. THE 6th CHAPTER AND THE 7th VERSE.

"BE NOT DECEIVED; GOD IS NOT MOCKED: FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP."

THUS DID THE APOSTLE PAUL, THE DIVINE WRITER, SET FORTH THE LAW OF THE HARVEST.....IT IS THE LAW OF UNIVERSAL APPLICATION...IN SCRIPTURE HARVEST IS USED IN A FIGURATIVE SENSE TO SUGGEST VARIED CONDITIONS..... Paul says THAT ONE REAPS WHAT HE SOWS AND ADDS.....

"FOR HE THAT SOWETH TO HIS OWN FLESH SHALL OF THE FLESH REAP CORRUPTION; BUT HE THAT SOWETH UNTO THE SPIRIT SHALL OF THE SPIRIT REAP ETERNAL LIFE..."(GAL.6:8).....

THIS CLEARLY SUGGESTS THAT ONE MUST BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS PERSONAL CONDUCT...THE PROPHET JOEL SAID, "PUT YE IN THE SICKLE; FOR THE HARVEST IS RIPE."...(JOEL 3:13).. REFERENCE IS MADE TO WICKED PEOPLE WHO WERE RIPE FOR DESTRUCTION....JESUS STATED, "THE HARVEST IS INDEED PLENTIFUL, BUT THE LABORERS ARE FEW, PRAY YE THEREFORE THE LORD OF THE HARVEST, THAT HE MAY SEND FORTH LABORERS UNTO HIS HARVEST(MT.9:37 HERE THE PEOPLE ARE PRESENTED RIPE FOR CONVERSION. HARVEST IS ALSO EMPLOYED IN ANOTHER SENSE: IT SIGNIFIES THE FINAL GATHERING OF THE RIGHTEOUS....THE TARES AND WHEAT WILL GROW TOGETHER UNTIL HARVEST TIME, THAT IS UNTIL THE END OF THE WORLD....IN MATT. 13:30, "JESUS SAYS THE HARVEST IS THE END OF THE WORLD....IN WHATEVER SENSE # HARVEST IS EMPLOYED, THIS LAW MAY BE APPLIED.... "WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP." HARVESTING IS THE NATURAL RESULT OF SOWING. IF THERE IS NO SOWING, THERE CAN BE NO REAPING. IF ONE SOWS CORN, HE EXPECTS TO REAP CORN. NO OTHER SPECIES OF GRAIN CAN PROCEED FROM THAT WHICH IS SOWN...MANY HYBRIDS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN MANY FIELDS, BUT ONLY CORN CAN PRODUCE CORN,.....

IT IS INTERESTING TO OBSERVE THAT THE HARVEST IS USUALLY PROLIFIC. SOWING IS A PAYING PROPOSITION IF THE PROPER THING IS SOWN. THE DIVIDENDS ARE TREMENDIOUS IN VIEW OF THE INVESTMENT. A SINGLE SEED WILL OFTEN PRODUCE HUNDREDS IN ONE GENERATION. IT MAY BE CORRECTLY STATED, THEREFORE, THAT THERE IS A DEFINITE PROPORTION BETWEEN THE AMOUNT SOWN AND THE AMOUNT OF THE HARVEST..

THE PRIMARY CONCERN OF RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE IS THE PRODUCTION OF CHRISTIANS.

TO HAVE PRODUCTION IN THE FIELD OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR THREE THINGS ARE NECESSARY. (1) THERE MUST BE A SOWER; (2) THERE MUST BE GOOD SEED; (3). THERE MUST BE GOOD SOIL.

IN MATT. 13:3-8,...JESUS SPAKE THIS PARABLE:....."BEHOLD THE SOWER WENT FORTH TO SOW.....SOME SEED FELL BY THE WAY SIDE, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND DEVOURED THEM..AND OTHERS FELL UPON THE ROCKY PLACES.....BECAUSE THEY HAD NO DEEPENESS OF EARTH..... THEY WITHERED AWAY...AND OTHERS FELL UPON THE THORNS: AND THE THORNS GREW UP AND CHOKED THEM...AND OTHERS FELL UPON THE GOOD GROUND AND YIELDED FRUIT, SOME A HUNDRED FOLD, SOME SIXTY, SOME THIRTY.".....

JESUS EXPLAINS THIS PARABLE IN LUKE 8:11-15 ...HE SAYS, "THE SEED IS THE WORD OF GOD.. AND ^{THOSE} ~~THEY~~ BY THE WAYSIDE ARE THEY THAT HAVE HEARD; THEN COMETH THE DEVIL, AND TAKETH THE WORD FROM THEIR HEART....AND THOSE ON THE ROCKS ARE THEY WHO, WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD, RECEIVE THE WORD WITH JOY, AND THESE HAVE NO ROOT, WHO FOR AWHILE BELIEVE, AND IN TIME OF TEMPTATION FALL AWAY.....AND THAT WHICH FELL AMONG THORNS.... ARE CHOKED WITH CARES AND RICHES AND PLEASURES OF THIS LIFE..... AND THAT IN GOOD GROUND, THESE ARE SUCH AS IN AN HONEST ~~###~~ AND GOOD HEART, HAVING HEARD THE WORD, HOLD IT FAST AND BRING FORTH FRUIT WITH PATIENCE.".....

CHRIST IS THE SOWER AND EVERY FAITHFUL FOLLOWER OF CHRIST IS CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY TO SOW THE SEED OF THE KINGDOM. THE WORK OF THE CHURCH IS STRICTLY A "SOWING WORK!"

THE MISSION OF THE LORD'S CHURCH IS TO PROPAGATE THE TRUTH. THE CHURCH IS GOD'S SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH. EVERY CHRISTIAN IS UNDER ORDERS TO SOW THE SEED— TO PREACH THE GOSPEL.. LIKE PAUL, EVERY CHRISTIAN IS A DEBTOR TO BOTH GREEKS AND BARBARIANS..... ROMANS 1:14.....

IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER WHO DOES THE SOWING SO LONG AS THE PROPER SEED IS SOWN. BUT ONE HARDLY EXPECT A RAGAN TO SOW GOD'S WORD.

GOD'S SEED IS INCORRUPTIBLE. IT IS PURE. IT IS PERFECT. PETER DECLARES THAT CHRISTIANS HAVE BEEN BEGOTTEN AGAIN NOT OF CORRUPTIBLE SEED, BUT OF INCORRUPTIBLE, THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD WHICH LIVETH AND ABIDETH. I PETER 1:23.....

"WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH, THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP."

GOD'S SEED ORIGINALLY PRODUCED CHRISTIANS. THAT IS ALL THAT IT HAS EVER PRODUCED. THAT IS ALL IT CAN POSSIBLY PRODUCE. NOTHING CAN EVER BE PRODUCED BUT CHRISTIANS WHEN THE WORD OF GOD--- THE UNADULTERATED SEED IS SOWN....ACTS 11:26..

WHERE ONE PROFESSES TO BE MORE OR LESS THAN CHRISTIAN WE MAY KNOW ASSUREDLY THAT SOMETHING MORE OR LESS THAN GOD'S WORD HAS BEEN SOWN.....

WHAT IS THE CONDITION OF YOUR HEART? SUCCESS IN THE SOWING?--- REAPING ENTERPRISE DEPENDS IN LARGE MEASURE UPON THE CONDITION OF THE SOIL. THE BEST SEED OBTAINABLE WILL NOT PRODUCE IN EXHAUSTED LAND...

MAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDITION OF HIS HEART . ONE MUST DESIRE TO KNOW THE WILL OF GOD; THERE MUST BE A HUNGERING AND THIRSTING....

CHRIST PRESENTS FOUR CLASSES OF SOIL-----FOUR CLASSES OF
 HEARERS: WAYSIDE HEARERS; STONY GROUND HEARERS; THORNY GROUND
 HEARERS; GOOD GROUND HEARERS. EACH CLASS OF HEARERS IS RESPONSIBLE
 FOR ITS OWN CONDITION.....

AND SO THE MASTER URGED, "HE THAT HATH EARS TO HEAR, LET
 HIM HEAR." "AGAIN "TAKE HEED WHAT YE HEAR." AND AGAIN,
TAKE HEED HOW YE HEAR."

ALL FAITHFUL, PRODUCTIVE HEARTS HAVE ASSURANCE# OF BEING
 NUMBERED WITH THOSE WHO FINALLY WILL BE GARNERED FOR ETERNAL
 REST... AS EVER THE RULE IS, "WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH, THAT SHALL
 HE ALSO REAP."