

“We Reap What We Sow”

Galatians 6:6-10

Tuesday Bible Lunch

January 10, 2017

Introduction: One of the things we need to think about as we begin the New Year is the old adage that we reap what we sow. But it is more than an old adage. It is what the Bible tells us.

Text: Galatians 6:6-10

- The context of this Scripture has to do with supporting those who teach the Word of God (private instruction of the Word of God, Bible teachers, Seminary professors, ministers, etc).
- Jesus said, “The laborer is worthy of his wages” (Luke 10:7).
- The Bible says, “Those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel (1 Cor. 9:14).
- Martin Luther said, “It is impossible for one man both to labor day and night to get a living, and at the same time to give himself to the study of sacred learning as the preaching office requires.” (John R.W. Stott on Galatians page 168).
- There is to be a “sharing” (koinonia—“fellowship or partnership”) between the minister and the church (V.6).

T.S. The context of the principle is Christian giving, but in a general sense the principle is true in all areas of life. We reap what we sow.

1. You reap what you sow physically.

- You will live a healthier life if you take care of your body.

- You will live a better life if you avoid things that stress you.

2. You reap what you sow relationally.

- Galatians 6:10 deals with this.
- Our kindness is not to be limited to believers, but our kindness to believers is to be shown in special ways.

Illustration: John Wesley said, “Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the people you can, as long as you can.” (Believer’s Bible Commentary on Galatians page 1897).

3. You will reap what you sow spiritually.

- Galatians 6:8 deals with this.
- Eternal Life is the present possession of every believer (John 3:36).
- Eternal Life is also what every believer receives at the end of life on earth (Romans 6:22).

Application: Those who sow in the Spirit (kingdom work) will reap rewards in this life in an expanded way.

Conclusion: This past weekend the New York Giants played the Green Bay Packers in one of the wildcard games. Earlier in the week, on their day off, some of the New York Giants players went to Florida, got on a boat, and had their pictures made with their shirts off to show their muscles. A good number of retired NFL players were critical of what they did. They said they should have stayed in New York and kept their mind on the upcoming game. The players said it was their day off and they could do what they wanted to do. How did things end. The New York Giants were beaten by the Green Bay Packers 38 to 13. Lesson learned: You reap what you sow.

As we move into the New Year we need to understand that we reap what we sow.
It is more than an adage. It is the Word of God.