

SOW VERY CAREFULLY!

Galatians 6:7-8

Int. “Stop fooling yourself.” A person reaps what he sows. This bedrock law of the harvest in the physical world operates as well on the spiritual side. For three reasons a person should sow very carefully.

A MAN REAPS *EXACTLY* WHAT HE SOWS!

Nobody plants potatoes and expects to get cotton, or tomatoes and expects to get grapes. Corn makes corn, okra makes okra and beans make beans. So on the spiritual side, what a man sows, “that and only that” is what he reaps.

Sow evil; reap evil. The Bible illustrates this truth over and over. Adonibezek (Judg 1:7); the Persian nobles who framed Daniel (6:24); Haman (Esth 7:10)—all reaped exactly what they sowed.

All who sow evil reap evil. It is not what a person meant to sow, or wished he had sown, or knows he should have sown that counts. It is only what he actually sowed that counts. A person always reaps exactly what he sows. Nothing more; nothing less; nothing else.

So sow very carefully!

A MAN REAPS *MORE* THAN HE SOWS!

A farmer would be a fool to work a field if he expected to harvest just two potatoes by planting two potatoes. Farming rests on the fact that a man reaps more than he sows. It is the same on the spiritual side. Sin sown multiplies. A little sin makes a big mess!

Witness David’s fling with Bathsheba. When she turned up pregnant, the king had her husband killed and took her into his house as his own wife. He thought the matter was over and done. But David had sown to the flesh and a great harvest was on the way. The court prophet Nathan declared, “The sword will never depart from your house” (2 Sam 12:10).

Bitter crop after bitter crop came. The sword flashed over and again. Crop one: Bathsheba’s baby died. Crop two: David’s son Amnon raped his half-sister Tamar. Crop 3: Tamar’s brother Absalom murdered Amnon for revenge. Crop 4: Absalom, David’s favorite son, revolted against his father and was killed in the effort. Crop 5: A young man named Sheba led the northern tribes to rebel against David. It shook the nation and nearly tore it apart. David’s was just one sin but it had multiple consequences.

Sin will take a person farther than he ever meant to go, keep him longer than he ever meant to stay, and cost him more than he ever meant to pay! A person reaps more than he sows.

So sow very carefully!

A MAN REAPS *LATER* THAN HE SOWS!

No farmer plants on Monday and expects to gather the harvest Tuesday. He reaps later. So it is on the spiritual side. Some think they got away with sin simply because the sky did not fall the moment they did wrong (Ecc 8:11). They think if God does not judge sin immediately, he will not judge it at all. But God settles all accounts at the End!

Jezebel framed Naboth and had him killed so Ahab could have the old man’s vineyard, Elijah said dogs would lick up the king’s blood and eat Jezebel’s flesh (1 Ki 21:19, 23). Payday did not come immediately but it came! Three years later for Ahab (1 Ki 22:37). Eighteen years later for Jezebel (2 Ki 9:35-36). A person always reaps later than he sows.

So sow very carefully!