Daily Devotion #65

We Reap What We Sow

***Galatians 6:7 (NASB)*** *7  “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.”*

My wife and I have been long time members of a local gym. But for us, this is no ordinary gym, it is a gym that trains our bodies to be functionally fit. It teaches us strength movements and conditioning so that we can, as I like to say it, grow old gracefully. But we are not the only ones at the gym trying to stay fit and healthy, there are many young people. Most of whom run circles, literally, around us easily. But we try and we have made some lifelong friends as a result.

Over the past twenty-four to forty-eight hours much has changed with the affiliation that the gym has had with the corporation that started the program. The larger corporation is a sole-proprietorship and the owner has made some comments about race that have sent the world into a firestorm of responses. Mostly, the gyms that have carried the name have unaffiliated themselves with the corporation because of the comments from the owner. For him, almost literally overnight, what he spent years building has come crashing down.

That event has caused me to think about what the Lord said through the Apostle Paul. Basically, we need to be incredibly careful about our lives and what we say and do because we will get back what we put into life. This verse is taken from an agricultural fact. Whatever is planted in the ground will produce that plant. If it is a kernel of corn, the result with be a corn stalk. If it is a watermelon seed, the produce from that seed will be watermelons.

Similarly, what a person plants spiritually is what they will receive. If a person plants good spiritual fruit, they will get a produce of healthy spiritual fruit. So, the meaning is very strait forward, and it is a truth found in many places in the Scripture. For example, ***Job 4:8 (NASB)*** *8  "According to what I have seen, those who plow iniquity And those who sow trouble harvest it.”* ***Proverbs 1:31-33 (NASB)*** *31  "So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way And be satiated with their own devices. 32  For the waywardness of the naive will kill them, And the complacency of fools will destroy them. 33  But he who listens to me shall live securely And will be at ease from the dread of evil."* ***Hosea 10:12 (NASB)*** *12  “Sow with a view to righteousness, Reap in accordance with kindness; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD Until He comes to rain righteousness on you.”*

The point is what you and I plant in the world spiritually, as well as how we interact with one another, is what we will get back. I remember a man telling me that he couldn’t go anywhere without being tempted to buy drugs to continue his habit. When I told him that I never have that problem he looked and me and said, “Really”? He couldn’t believe that I wasn’t constantly tempted with those same things. My point to him was that I don’t put myself in that place. I don’t give in to what will be bad for me. Please understand, I am nowhere near perfect. My wife and kids will tell you that. But what God teaches us is that whatever we want to grow from us and in us is what we should plant in this life.

If you look at your life and wonder why trouble seems to follow you, ask yourself what you are planting. Admittedly, there are many things that come into our lives just because we live in a sinful world. But the principle of God still stands. Whatever we do or how we act or how we use our words, comes back to us either by way of greater blessings or by way of troubles.

Examine your life. Ask God to show you what is in your heart that you may be planting that is causing you to reap the things you are reaping in this life. If you see something that is negative, confess it before God and lay it at His feet. Then purpose, with His help, to live each day sowing seeds of righteousness and kindness. Your rewards from your planting will be glorious.