

Galatians 6:7-9

November 10, 2024

Reaping and Sowing in the Christian Walk
It's NOT Karma
It's NOT the Prosperity Gospel

What's Karma?

What's the prosperity Gospel?

1. What's the deception addressed by Paul? Galatians 6:7

2. What does this thinking reveal?

3. The law of nature refutes this deception: Galatians 6:8
 - a. Sowing to the flesh reaps corruption
 - i. Despair, doubt, anxiety, fear, impatience, selfishness, lack of self control, combative, pride, jealousy,

 - b. Sowing to the Spirit reaps abundant spiritual life
 - i. Is this eternal life salvation? John 17:3
John 10:10

4. Reaping the abundant life from the Spirit Galatians 6:9
 - a. Requires diligence and patience in the sowing
 - b. Can be forfeited if we grow weary

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He doesn't say we will reap when we die, he says we will reap in due time. This is an important distinction here. It also cannot mean just directly eternal life because Jesus says to know God is eternal life. Therefore, what is there to reap. We already have it. This has to be talking about the abundant blessing of eternal life. The qualitative measure of what we already have!

Karma Principles:

1. Small actions lead to great results.
2. It is non-transferable.
3. Non-committed actions won't give you the results you want.
4. Karma actions are binding

In essence, you are the master of your own destiny. The things that happen to you are earned either in this lifetime or the lifetime to come.

You are accountable to God. He is the one that is judging you.

Deeds are sown into two different fields:

- The flesh
- The Spirit

God is bringing the increase with works sown in the Spiritual field bringing forth Spiritual blessings.

Faith is the instrument of sowing. It is impossible to please God without faith.

Sowing to the Spirit does not guarantee physical blessings in this life. But it does bring about the spiritual blessings of eternal life, even increasing the rewards that we receive in heaven.

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When you sow to the flesh, the best possible outcomes are still temporal. They are still those that will decay, not lasting for eternity. Often times they are clearly decaying, spoiled fruit.

- Selfishness, greed, anxiety, anger, despair, hopelessness,

Karma - you are in control.....basically your actions create a specific future for yourself in this world or another. "What goes around comes around" is the idea here. That isn't necessarily a true statement.

- 1.
- 2.
3. Mocking God
 - a. What does it mean?
 - b. Why is it futile?
 - c. How are they mocking God?
 - d. What's the deception?
4. Sowing to the flesh
 - a. What does it mean?
 - b. What does it reap?
5. Sowing to the Spirit
 - a. What does it mean?
 - b. What does it reap?
6. Forfeiting our harvest

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- a.
- b. What does it mean to grow weary?

Who would be deceived and why would this lead to mocking God?

- Christians who are not following Christ, but still experiencing a outwardly blessed life
- Non Christians who reject God openly in their heart and mind and still enjoy a blessed life from their perspective (and probably others as well)
- Non Christians who think they are Christians by the good works they are doing.

What does it mean to mock God? (Mock the grace and power of God)

- Openly ridicule, challenge
- Test, tease in a contemptuous way

It means to live in sin and

Can Christians sow to the flesh?

What does it mean to sow to the flesh?

- Sow means to plant (by reference into the ground)
- Sow to the flesh is to plant, invest, cultivate the

* Flesh represents the sinful nature, that even Christians still battle against.

What are the results of sowing to the flesh?

“Corruption”, decay. As we connect this with the analogy of the harvest, we see that the results of sowing to our flesh is to produce fruit that is nasty, corrupt, decaying. It is blemished fruit...spotted and spoiled.

What does it mean to sow to the Spirit?

Walk in the Spirit, doing the works that God has for you.

What does it mean to sow to the fle

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What are the results of sowing to the Spirit?

“Everlasting life” If this means salvation, then the nature by which we are saved or at least the nature by which our salvation is preserved moves from being the work of Jesus Christ, to our own works.

But if we juxtapose the results of sowing to the flesh and sowing to the Spirit we get

Corruption vs. Eternal life

Decay vs. Fullness of Spiritual life

Are our works being weighed before God?

Our salvation is not being weighed before God. We are fully and completely justified before God the Father by the work of Jesus Christ. We are made holy by the perfection of Jesus Christ covering us.

What does it mean to lose heart? Why would someone lose heart?

When do we reap the reward of sowing to the Spirit?

How can we forfeit our reward / harvest?

Romans 8:1

There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus!

Does this passage teach that you can lose your salvation?

- If it does, we must admit that

Paul says, do not be deceived, thinking you can continue in sin and get away with it. This is akin to mocking God. But, it's not possible to ridicule God, because ultimately what you sow will be reaped. God is the one who will bring about the “reaping.”

If you sow to the flesh, you will grow corruption

If you sow to the Spirit, you will reap from God eternal life

Do not become weary in doing good, sowing to the Spirit. It requires patience to reap eternal life from Christ.

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Romans 11:6

If our final salvation rests upon the works that we do, then grace is no longer grace, but has been changed to works.

Grace and works are mutually exclusive.

Does our salvation begin in faith and then is completed by our works?

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If the verses in Galatians 6:7-10 refer to a Christian losing their salvation. It is not only that they grow weary, and quit working, but that they

1. Do Christians sow to both the flesh and the Spirit?
 - a. Yes, if sow carries the meaning of individual moments.
2. Therefore, Christians reap both decay and eternal life
 - a. Reap means gather the harvest, get the fruit
 - i. To receive the reward or benefit

Do you sow to your flesh?

Is that the consistent pattern of your life?

- If yes on this one, then you are not saved. You do not have a new nature.

Corruption = decay, rottenness, decomposition

Everlasting life = fullness of the Spiritual life, blessings

What are we reaping? Salvation? Absolutely not. We cannot reap salvation, we are given salvation. But we can reap blessings from God through our faithfulness to Him!

God is not mocked, we will receive the fruits of our labor!

Whatever a man sows, he will reap it.

Can this refer to salvation?

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You can be made alive by the Spirit, but not be walking in the Spirit. In other words, you can have salvation but not be living out obedience to God through the power of the Holy Spirit. When this happens, quite often we are sowing in the flesh. Galatians 5:26 gives us an example of the type of results Christians can get when, what they will reap: pride, combativeness, and envy. What is being harvested is corrupt and decaying fruit. It is not a blessing to the Christian, but instead is something that weighs heavily on them, making them miserable as they are not fulfilling the purpose.

Those that continually sow to the flesh are those that are not saved. Christians cannot continually, consistently produce rotten fruit. They will know us by our fruit. They will know us specifically by our love for one another, which is referenced as a fruit in Galatians 6:10

The one who sows to the Spirit, which is another way of saying walking in the Spirit, will be blessed by the Spirit of God, receiving the reward of their faithfulness, eternal life.

Does eternal life in this case refer to our ultimate salvation?

Can I reap eternal life if I already have it?

Sowing and reaping is a general principle: This impacts both believer and nonbeliever

Believer can sow in either field: the flesh or the Spirit

The unbeliever can only sow in the flesh. What does it mean to sow in the flesh?

1. Work through your own power
2. The list of sins from Galatians 5:19

The fruit, harvest, for sowing in the flesh is corruption. For the unbeliever, it ultimately lead

Does all the sowing a Christian does only reap eternal life?

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Why do some lose heart in doing good?

What's the deception?

- I can live how I want without any real recourse from God.

What does your thinking reveal?

- A misunderstanding of the character of God: His righteous justice
- A contempt, disregard for the grace of God: making it a mockery, making it something to be abused

Law of nature applied to life

- Agriculture, what is planted is what is harvested
- Spiritual life
 - Sowing to the flesh