

2 Corinthians: Encouragement in Troubling Times
"Sowing and Reaping" # 19
2 Corinthians 9:6-11
9-18-16 Sun AM

Last time as I preached on "The Grace of Giving" in chapter 8-9 and I looked at several evidences of Grace giving:

1. Grace Giving is in Spite of Circumstances.
2. Grace Giving is with Enthusiasm.
3. Grace Giving is as Jesus Gave.
4. Grace Giving is with Willingness.
5. Grace giving is to meet Needs.
6. Grace giving is not foolish giving.
7. Grace giving glorifies God.
8. Grace giving unites God's people.

Think of giving as not something you do, but something we are [worship]. Giving should be a way of life for the Christian.

This morning there is one evidence I want to examine by itself, and that is the law of sowing and reaping found in our preaching text.

TT- I want to share three principles of the law of sowing and reaping.

I. We reap in measure as we sow (v. 6).

The **farmer** who sows much seed will have a better chance for a bigger harvest. The **investor** will collect more return or dividends. The more the **believer** invests in the work of the Lord, the more "fruit" will abound to our account (Phil. 4:10-20).

God is our example in his unsparing giving.

Rom. 8:32, He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

I. We reap in measure as we sow (v. 6).

II. We reap as we sow with the right motives (v. 7).

The motive in our giving is vitally important. Our giving must come from a heart with a pure motive to please God.

Warren Weirsbe says, "We must not be "sad givers" who give grudgingly, or "mad givers" who give because we have to. We should be "glad givers" who cheerfully share what we have because we have experienced the grace of God.

Proverbs 22:9, He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

The word "cheerful" is where we get our English word "hilarious." So there are three types of givers in the church- sad, mad, and glad. Hillary in Latin means cheerful as well.

God can bless a gift given from a heart that is not right, but God can't bless the giver unless the heart is right. Grace giving then, is when the giver and the gift are both blessed.

I. We reap in measure as we sow (v. 6).

II. We reap as we sow with the right motives (v. 7).

III. We reap while we sow and later than we sow (vs. 8-11).

Paul here speaks of the short term and long term benefits of our giving:

1. v. 8- We share in God's grace.

The "alls" are exciting to see in this verse. The Christian who practices grace giving will always have what he needs when he needs it. We depend wholly on God's grace and his sufficiency.

The word "sufficiency" means "adequate resources within." Christ is adequate to meet the demands of life. He alone gives us that "well of water" in the heart that makes us sufficient for life.

John 4:14, But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

1. v. 8- We share in God's grace.

2. v. 9- We share in God's righteousness.

Paul quotes **Ps. 112:9** to prove his point. The Psalm describes the righteous man who has no fears because his heart is sincere and obedient.

Paul is not saying we earn righteousness by our giving, but if our hearts are right, God uses our giving to build our practical righteousness (more like Christ).

1. v. 8- We share in God's grace.

2. v. 9- We share in God's righteousness.

3. vs. 10-11- We share in God's multiplication of the gift.

Paul uses Isaiah 55:10-11 to say that God supplies all the believers needs. There is always spiritual and material bread for eating and for seed for sowing.

The believer is enriched and enriches others. This brings glory to God. All we do is "for the glory of God."

God enriches us so we can give even more. You can't out give God.