The Law of the Harvest

Galatians 6:7

Introduction: The Context

The spiritual Christian will be a relief to others. How?

By Bearing Burdens (v.1-5)

By Sharing Blessings (v.6-10)

9 Basic principles about farming:

1. **You are free to plant various seed**
   ("Whatsoever")

2. **You must sow (plant) to reap (harvest)**

3. **If you plant you will harvest**

4. **You will reap exactly what you plant (in kind)**

5. **You will reap more than what you plant (in quantity)**

6. **You will reap at a different season than when you planted**

7. **Reaping is impartial, predictable, unavoidable, and immutable**

8. **You can't alter the harvest, only the planting**

9. **You can't do anything about the past, but you can do something about the future**
   (begin planting new seed!)

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The Law of the Harvest

Galatians 6:1-10 (v.7)

Introduction:

Ill. of receiving help just when you needed it!

The Context of this chapter

Proposition: <u>The spiritual Christian will be a relief to others.</u>

I. BY <u>BEARING BURDENS</u> (v.1-5)

(Note: context of the book. "Legalism vs. Liberty" The legalist is not interested in bearing burdens. instead, he adds to the burdens of others (Acts 15:10; Mt.23:4).

v.1) Matthew 18 is to be followed. The sinning brother is
like a broken bone in the body, and he needs to be restored.

v.2) Need concern, and alertness to needs (a sensitivity)
(believers are to <u>assist</u> in carrying burdens, not take over the whole burden themselves.)

v.3) Don't be one who thinks "I never need help!" or "I have great moral strength and never fall"

v.4) "prove"- Examine, test for genuineness.
Merely to compare oneself to a stumbling brother and then to feel smugly superior is to use the <u>wrong yardstick</u>. We are often like the little boy who proudly announced he was nine feet tall because he had make his own ruler out of wood and measured himself. Our standard is the Word of God.
There is no place for <u>competition</u> in the work of God. (we only compete against sin and Satan). Don't try to make others look bad, just to make yourself look good.

v.5) Is not a contradiction with verse 2.
"burdens" (v.2) = heavy burden
"Burden" (v.5) = Soldier's pack; points to individual responsibility. (Mt. 11:30 "My burden is light")

I. BY <u>SHARING BLESSINGS</u> (v.6-10)

v.6) What we do with <u>material</u> things is an evidence of how we value <u>spiritual</u> things. Jesus said "the laborer is worthy of his hire (Lk.10:7) cp. Paul's statement in I Cor.9:11,14.

v.7) Everybody, sooner or later, sits down at the "banquet Hall" of consequences.

If it was not for this law, the whole principle of "cause and effect" would fail. (chaos would result) for example: the farmer who sows wheat, expects wheat.

This verse shows that:
Your activities do not escape God's notice

Mock = an intention to outwit, and thereby make God out to look ridiculous. Some sneer at God thinking "He is dead"

You are wrong to think that you can sin and get away with it. (the opposite is true also- you can't do good and not be rewarded for it)

The reaped consequences are <u>just</u> and <u>certain</u> (unavoidable)
God holds the scales with an even balance.

9 Basic principles about Sowing and Reaping from Galatians 6:7:

1. **You are free to plant various seed** ("Whatsoever")
2. **You must sow (plant) to reap (harvest)**
3. **If you plant you will harvest**
4. **You will reap <u>exactly</u> what you plant (in <u>kind</u>)**
5. **You will reap <u>more</u> than what you plant (in <u>quantity</u>)**
6. **You will reap at a <u>different</u> <u>season</u> than when you planted**
7. **Reaping is <u>impartial</u>, <u>predictable</u>, <u>unavoidable</u>, and <u>immutable</u>**
8. **You can't <u>alter</u> the harvest, only the <u>planting</u>**
9. **You can't do anything about the <u>past</u>, but you can do something about the <u>future</u>** (begin planting new seed!)

v.8) Money spent only on self results in <u>corruption</u>. No spiritual harvest or blessings.

ex. money can buy a bed, but not sleep
food an appetite.
house a home.
medicine health.
amusement happiness
gifts love
a crucifix a Savior

ex. sow prayer.....reap answers
sow dedication..... reap accomplishment

Don't invest your life for gratifying your fleshly nature.

Don't be a "Dead Sea" Christian. The Dead Sea is just that - dead. Though millions of tons of fresh water pour into it weekly, it has no outlet. Nothing goes out. Nothing can live in that body of water.

Give, and it will be given to you, pressed down shaken together and running over.

v.9) We tend to grow weary when we do not see <u>immediate</u> results. (ex. in USA, we want everything <u>fast</u>! - food, speedy computers, printing etc.)

v.10) Members of the same family have a special responsibility for one another. "Charity begins at home"