

Understanding Rewards Part 2

Harvest Principles Galatians 6:6,7

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday Jan. 22nd

Have you ever stood in wonder and looked at the stars? They “twinkle” because Earth’s atmosphere obscures our perspective of them. In 1990 NASA launched the Hubble Scope which has sent back “pictures” that continue to amaze us! (<http://hubblesite.org/images>)

In much the same way the “atmosphere” of the Earth has a way of distorting our view of God’s Kingdom. That’s why Jesus’ first message was to call people to *“Repent (rethink, reconsider) for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”* (Mt. 4:17) They (like we) need to look above the “atmosphere” of the Kingdoms of earth (including our own) in order to see God’s “Kingdom” more clearly.

Last week we introduced two “Key’s” to open our eyes to the Kingdom of Heaven.

- What we believe (Faith) determines *Where* we’ll spend eternity. (Our Destination!)
- How we behave (Works) determines *How* we’ll spend eternity. (Our Compensation!)

These “Key’s” are revealed in many passages such as Eph. 2:8-10 and James 2.

Contrast the Keys of Faith and Works		
Category	Key of Belief (Faith) Eph.2:8,9	Key of Behavior (Works) Eph. 2:10
What I do	I “believe” (trust) Christ	<i>I Serve Christ</i>
What I received	Forgiveness, Eternal Life	<i>Blessings, Eternal Rewards</i>
Who does the Work	Christ died for me.	<i>I live for Him</i>
The Basis	My Faith in Christ	<i>My Works for Christ</i>
The Result	Eternal Salvation	<i>Eternal Compensation</i>

Principles of the Harvest

1. The Principle of *Preparation.*

A. You must prepare the soil. (Parable of the sower and seeds. Mt. 13:1-9; 18-24)

- 1) Unprepared soil hinders the plant.
- 2) Only “weeds” grow “naturally”.
- 3) The only difference between the types of soil is the amount of preparation!
Nothing Ventured; Nothing _____! 1 Cor. 9:24,25; 2 Tim 2:3-6

2. The Principle of Planting

A. We'll reap What we sow! Gal. 6: 7,8 *"he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; (fthor-ah': decay, ruin) but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."*

1) That's why Paul warned Believers to build for eternity. 1 Cor 3:14-15; Mt. 16:27; 2 Cor. 5:10 *"according to his works"* (Praxis: Practice) What practices are you "Planting"?

3. The Principle of Patience.

A. We'll reap After we sow! Gal 6:9 *"in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."*

1) Too many "quit" during "dry" seasons. (In both Marriage and Ministry!) 2 Timothy 4:2 Heb. 10:35-36 *"Cast not away your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."* Pr. 24:10-12, 2 Jn 1:8; Is. 40:31 *"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength..."* (kaw-vaw') To bind together!

4. The Principle of Proportion. Luke 6:38

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together..."

"For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

A. We'll reap More than we sow! Mal. 3:9,10 *"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."*

Mt. 19:27-29 *"Shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit eternal life!"*

B. Life is a "evaluation" for Eternity! Luke 16:10-13 *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?"*

And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, (or God's) who shall give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: either he will hate one, and love the other; or he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Conclusion: The Laws of the Harvest are:

- **Universal:** Apply to saved and lost.
- **Practical:** Apply to every area. (Relationships, Retirement, families, finances)
- **Irreversible:** Can't go back and reclaim lost time and opportunities. (Jeremiah 8:20)

Application: What do you expect or want at "Harvest" time?

If you're not Saved: *"Depart from me...into everlasting fire..."* Mt. 25:41 (Rev. 20:11-15)

If you're "Worldly" minded: Phil. 3:18-18; 1 Cor. 3:9-15; Rev. 3:14-19

If you're faithfully serving Christ. Mt. 25:23; Phil. 3:20

What "End" do you want?

What are you doing to prepare for it? 2 Tim. 4:7,8

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day:

and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me: For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world,..."