



SERIES: WE ARE FREE (A Study of Galatians) December 2022 – January 2023

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Friday, January 20, 2023

Scripture: Galatians 6:6-7

TITLE: Sowing and Reaping Your Legacy

If you could summarize your life in one sentence what would it be? Not what you hope it to be. But what is it based on what you've done so far. Now let's talk about possibility. What would you want your life sentence to be?

In other words if someone came to your tombstone in 100 years what would you want them to know about you? Whatever your answer is, in order to make that reality you will have to live intentionally. How do you accomplish this? That's what Paul wants to tell us today in Galatians chapter 6 beginning in verse six.

Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.

How do you get the legacy that you long for? You practice intentionally. Sow what you hope to reap. That's Paul's prescription for a desired legacy.

I'm not a farmer by any means. But I do like to garden. I'm not a flower garden guy, I'm a vegetable garden kind of guy. And I will tell you after gardening for nearly 15 years, I have never planted tomato seeds and harvested pumpkins. I have never planted pepper seeds and collected eggplants. Why? Because what we sow is what we reap. What we plant is what we harvest. What we do drives what we get.

Many of us live life haphazardly and we get the expected results. Many of us live life with good intentions, but intentions aren't actions.

So how do you want to be known and remembered? Do you want to be remembered for your generosity or for your greed? The answer can be seen in how you live. Even Paul talks about this in this passage. He says, let the one who was taught the word share all good things with one who teaches.

If you ever want to give your pastor a raise, remind them of this verse. God recognizes the importance of generosity with the body of Christ. But He also recognizes generosity and adequate compensation for those who lead and give instruction within the body of Christ. But this only happens when we as believers are generous with what God has given us.

God never wants us to give out of compulsion. God never wants us to do anything out of compulsion, but rather, out of love for Him. We are to give out of the joy of our heart. Second

Corinthians would tell us to give cheerfully. Now, you can be known as generous, but you can also be known as an angry generous person.

Whatever it is that you want out of this life, you have to work for it intentionally. So again, if you want to be known as generous then you have to give generously. God has promised to meet all of our needs. God is the giver of all things and because of that we can give freely.

But this principle applies to other areas as well. Do you want to be known as faithful or inconsistent? Do you want to be known as spiritually mature? Or spiritually stuck? Do you want to be known as fearful? Or courageous? Whatever your answer is, God has provided a way to reap accordingly.

Today declare what your life sentence will be. Ask God through prayer for the wisdom on how to accomplish it. Then get back to the Bible to create the path forward and search His word for how to get there!