

# SEEDTIME/HARVEST PRINCIPLE

## INTRO

The seedtime/harvest principle will remain as long as the earth does. It is the law of sowing/reaping. Jesus applied this seedtime/harvest principle to the Word producing the Kingdom of God Mark 4:26-32. The Holy Spirit through the apostle Paul applied the seedtime/harvest principle to giving or sowing money and to our actions and behavior 2 Corinthians 9:6; Galatians 6:7-9. "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease," Genesis 8:22.

### I. The Seedtime/Harvest Principle Applied to the Word Mark 4:26-29, 30-32.

- A. The Word of God's Kingdom works in the same way as a man plants or sows natural seed.
  - 1. The Word is the seed - it's quality seed - incorruptible (1 Pet. 1:23).
  - 2. It's alive/powerful (Heb. 4:12).
- B. The Word (seed) needs to be planted in the soil of our heart.
  - 1. A man can do it himself.
  - 2. Potential fruit/harvest comes only from planted seed.
  - 3. It must remain planted, protected, allowed to grow.
  - 4. It won't grow roots unless cared for - root capacity is in every seed.
- C. You cannot see how it will grow, but it is designed to grow.
  - 1. It is preprogrammed to grow, but you do not have to see how in order to benefit.
  - 2. God guarantees nothing will be hidden/kept secret that you need to know to cause it to produce—all you have to do is continue hearing.
  - 3. Total confidence in the seed to do what it is to do.
- D. The growth of the seed is progressive/gradual. It takes time. In this time, satan attacks with five main things, God gives us a preview of exactly what satan will do.
- E. When it is sown it is small and seems insignificant—but this small seed, given time, will grow.
- F. It must be planted and allowed to grow to reach its full potential that it will be so big, it will cover any need/problem—fowls that devoured will be covered by it; but it takes patience in the growing time.

### II. Seedtime/Harvest Principles Applied to Giving/Financial Things.

- A. If you want a harvest, you must plant seed Mark 4:26; 2 Corinthians 9:6.
  - 1. Many try to live in **harvest time** but never participate in **seedtime**.
  - 2. Harvest time comes after seedtime.
  - 3. What is behind instructions from God to sow seed—give, tithe...instructions are given (tithe, offering, giving to the poor) to create events in your future. When you see the harvest, are these instructions an obligation or an opportunity (tithes - Malachi 3; offering - Luke 6:38; alms, poor - Proverbs 19:17). Do not think on the seed; focus on the harvest.
  - 4. When God talks to you about a seed, He has a harvest in mind—yours or someone else's.
  - 5. When God spoke through Elijah to a widow woman about a seed, He had a harvest in mind 1 Kings 17.
  - 6. What you sow is the only proof you believe in a harvest.
- B. You must plant ahead of the time you need it because there is a time element between sowing/reaping.
  - 1. Can not wait till you need it. If you want tomatoes in August/September, you need to plant in May.
  - 2. The seed that leaves your hand never leaves your life. It goes into your future/multiplies Ecclesiastes 11:1; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.
- C. Your harvest size is related to the size of the seed sown.

1. You are determining your harvest size when you sow your seed.
  2. A man's harvest cannot be blamed on God 2 Corinthians 9:6; Galatians 6:9.
  3. You determine what your future harvest will be by what you sow today. Every seed affects your future.
- D. Only the seed sown multiplies or becomes more.
1. A seed is anything that can become more 2 Corinthians 9:10.
  2. Every seed has ability in it to produce **more** and after its kind Genesis 1:11, 12, and 29; 1 Corinthians 15:36-38.
  3. A single seed never produces a single fruit—there's a tree in every seed see Mark 4:26-29—blade, ear, full corn.
  4. What you keep will never become more—God multiplies only what is sown.
  5. Scattering gives increase; withholding brings decrease (poverty) Proverbs 11, 24, and 25.
  6. It is the nature of the seed to reproduce. John 12:24 ... “Except a corn (kernel) fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth **much fruit**.”
- F. Seed must be planted in good ground (Mk. 4:8,20; Dt. 12:5-7; 26:14).
- G. When seed is sown, you can expect a harvest. It's a law (Gen. 8:22); God said it (Gal. 6:9); Jesus said it (Lk. 6:38); Holy Spirit through Paul said it (2 Cor. 9:6).
- H. Within the harvest, there is seed to sow again. (2 Cor. 9:10; Is. 55:10).
- I. God works toward your life financially providing
1. Seed to sow - provision to sow more.
  2. Bread for food (provision to live on/consume).
- J. There'll never be a day in your life you have nothing to sow. Don't eat all your seed. If what you have is not enough to be a harvest, it must be a seed to sow.