

# what we believe

Dr. Rich Wilkerson | October 29, 2023 | Part 10

## WE BELIEVE IN THE LAW OF THE HARVEST!

**Ecclesiastes 11:1-6** — <sup>1</sup>Ship your grain across the sea; after many days you may receive a return.

<sup>2</sup> Invest in seven ventures, yes, in eight; you do not know what disaster may come upon the land.

<sup>3</sup> If clouds are full of water, they pour rain on the earth.

Whether a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where it falls, there it will lie.

<sup>4</sup> Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.

<sup>5</sup> As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed<sup>[a]</sup> in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.

<sup>6</sup> Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well.

Vs. 1 says — Give it to God and He will **BRING** it back to you.

Vs. 4 says — Stand around all day doing **NOTHING**, watching the wind and looking at the clouds, and you won't reap a thing.

Vs. 5 says — Don't try to figure God out.

Vs. 6 says — If you work in the morning and in the evening, something good is going to happen to you. You will **SUCCEED**.

## THE 5 LAWS OF THE HARVEST

### The 1st Law of the Harvest: YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW!

**Galatians 6:7** — Be not deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

#### ALL OF LIFE OPERATES ON THIS LAW.

- A farmer sows tomatoes and that's what he gets.
- Your son sows a great attitude. People will be attracted to him.
- If you sow good work habits you will get a promotion.
- When you sow love you reap love.
- YOU REAP IN THE SAME CATEGORY YOU SOW INTO.
- If you sow love you won't get lots of corn.
- If you sow corn you won't have your car run more smoothly.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU SOW **MONEY** YOU WILL REAP MONEY!

### The 2nd Law of the Harvest: YOU REAP MORE THAN YOU SOW

**Matthew 13:8,9** — Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. <sup>9</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Jesus is saying:

**“CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?”**

If this wasn't the case we couldn't afford to sow.  
You can't sow and receive the same amount back you sowed.

The farmer believes in this principle and **BANKS HIS LIFE ON IT!**

**YOU REAP MORE THAN YOU SOW!**

SEE NEXT PAGE >

## The 3rd Law of the Harvest: YOU REAP AFTER YOU SOW!

**Galatians 6:7** — Whatever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

**Luke 6:39** — Give and it shall be given unto you.

**Malachi 3:10** — Bring the whole tithe into the store house that there may be food in my house. Test me in this says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

In that last verse, Malachi speaks of the **TITHE** which is the first tenth of your income.

The Old Testament taught that **the FIRST 10th of our INCOME belonged to God!** Not the second — or the NOTHING that's left after we've paid all of our bills!

God says in all these passages **FIRST**...*“First YOU do something and then I will bring a harvest.”*

### THE BEATITUDES

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

What precedes the blessing? Someone was pure in heart first.

Someone was being merciful first. Then they received after what they had sowed.

## The 4th Law of the Harvest: IT MATTERS WHERE YOU SOW

**Matthew 13:3b-8** — “A farmer went out to sow his seed. <sup>4</sup> As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. <sup>5</sup> Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

Jesus plainly tells us that some seeds fell on places that were just bad places to plant!

You can't grow a garden with seeds planted next to the freeway on the freeway! That's just not gonna work!

GOOD SOIL produces a GOOD HARVEST when GOOD SEEDS are planted in it!

### IT MATTERS WHERE YOU PLANT!

**TITHES & DESIGNATED OFFERINGS** and how it works here at Trinity Church:

**You tithe into your local church.** When Malachi talks about bringing your tithe into the storehouse, the storehouse is the local church. You don't tithe to a favorite TV preacher. You do not designate your tithe either.

**Beyond your tithe are your free-will offerings.** Those can go to a missions projects that you like. You can give to a building fund. You can designate that. But you release the tithe to your church.

## The 5th Law of the Harvest: THE SOWER DECIDES THE SIZE OF THE HARVEST

**2 Corinthians 9:6** — Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

We are in the business of winning this city for Christ no matter the cost. This is a church that happens to be a 24hr/7 day a week business establishment that works to turn back the floodgates of hell until Jesus comes or calls us home!