

**Other Lessons from Seed-Sowing
& The Stupid Rich Man
28 Parables of Jesus Series**

Bible Sermon Study Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr

Today we are going to learn more lessons for seed-sowing. Plus we are also going to learn from another parable from Jesus about a stupid rich man.

Everybody should have a home garden not only to provide healthy food for your family but also to learn the spiritual lessons that a garden teaches the children and adults. Plus children need to know that food comes from the power of God! It is simply amazing!

When were seeds created?

3rd Day of Creation:

Gen 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the **herb (plant) yielding seed**, and the **fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.**

Gen 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

How were seeds created?

Gen 1:11 And God said... God spoke the seed into existence!

Isa 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

Psalms 33:6-9

6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.

8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

9 For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.

Heb 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

The Power of God's Word produced seeds that grows more seed. Remember, JUST one seed has a lot of power! One apple seed has the power to produce an orchid full of delicious apples. One tiny okra seed has the power to produce a field of okra. One kernel of corn has the power to produce several acres of corn! God's Word placed laws in every seed to govern it. These laws were within harmony with creation and the purpose of God to glory God.

What are the laws that govern every seed that we learn from creation?

Laws of seeds

- 1) **EVERY** plant, tree, and flower **produces seed (or spores)** that has the **power** to duplicate and multiply itself
- 2) **Seeds** can **ONLY** grow after the kind of plant, tree, or flower it came from. In other words, a corn seed and only produce corn. You can't get okra from a bean seed.
- 3) In order for seeds to grow into a full grown fruit bearing plant it must be planted in good soil with the proper air, temperature, moisture and nutrients.
- 4) Seeds only multiply if they are sown and grown! In other words, seeds cannot multiply without first

becoming a plant or tree that produce fruit.

Let 's briefly study and review God's law that He placed in every seed.

Let's review the power of ONE SEED (SEED anatomy)

Seeds are like baby plants inside a little house waiting to spring fourth into action! They are actually “sleep” or dormant until they are placed in an environment to grow.

Did you know that seeds only need warmth, water, and air to start its growth without soil? Seeds will not use the nutrients found in soil for a few days or weeks, because the seed itself has everything it needs to BEGIN growing. Seeds will remain dormant for years until it is placed in an environment with warmth, water, and air.

Every seed has a baby plant waiting to grow into action. Its known as an **embryo**. What protects the baby plant inside in a variety of seeds is an outer shell or coat know as the **testa**.

When the outer shell of the seed is soaked in water from rain, etc it comes of and the sleep embryo (baby plant) inside the seed get the water and begin to “awake. This process is known as germination.

What is the law of order to produce more seeds from a seed?

Mar 4:26 And he said, **So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;**

Mar 4:27 **And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.**

Mar 4:28 **For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.**

Law of order to produce fruit and make more seeds

- 1) Sown in good soil
- 2) God's rain, sunshine, and air
- 3) Plant
- 4) Immature fruit (the ear)
- 5) Fruit ready for Harvest
- 6) Seed from the Fruit!

You SOW and GOD GROWS

Lesson: Sowing and growing our food is combined with human effort and Divine POWER!

What is the main principle of reaping the food from a harvest?

2Th 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

There is NO food from a harvest if you don't work it. NO sow NO grow , in other words you cannot grow if you don't sow.

What is your work in growing a garden?

- 1)Till and prepare the soil
- 2) Sow the seeds
- 3) Weed the garden

What is totally IMPOSSIBLE for YOU to do in the garden after you have done your part?

Grow the seed into a tree or plant that produces a great harvest. ONLY GOD can grow the garden. This is the law. Every seed depends on God's sun, water, soil nutrients and air to grow.

Psalms 65:9-11 describes what God does after you sow the seed that IMPOSSIBLE for you to do!

Psalms 65:9-11

- 9 Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, *which* is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.
- 10 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof.
- 11 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

You can't provide the sunshine, air, rain, and nutrients for each plant to grow. The law of the seed shows our full dependence on God even after we work in sowing the seed.

What is the main spiritual lesson that God is teaching us here?

Mar 10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, **With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.**

Php 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Php 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

Php 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

Remember, God does not offer welfare salvation. It is true you cannot earn salvation by your own man made works, but you must cooperate with God and work with HIM. Faith is not real faith without God working in your to DO the works of JESUS.

You cannot grow or produce salvation, but you MUST receive it and believe.

As learned from the parable of the seed and sower... we MUST allow God's WORD to be sown in a receptive heart. Then it is GOD who grows that seed, but we must REMIND in His nutrient rich soil by abiding in Christ daily. We also MUST keep all the weeds out!

“In everything that tends to the sustenance of man is seen the concurrence of divine and human effort. There can be no reaping unless the human hand acts its part in the sowing of the seed. But without the agencies which God provides in giving sunshine and showers, dew and clouds, there would be no increase. Thus it is in every business pursuit, in every department of study and science. **Thus it is in spiritual things, in the formation of the character, and in every line of Christian work.** We have a part to act, but we must have the power of divinity to unite with us, or our efforts will be in vain.” {COL 82.1}

It is IMPOSSIBLE for you to grow you! Your spiritual growth depends on God, but you MUST sow seeds of TRUTH in order to produce the fruit and more seeds. The seeds that you allow to be sown in your heart daily will determine if you have a harvest unto salvation or not.

Remember, what is the sow and reap principle?

Galatians 6:7-9

- 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
- 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.
- 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

You reap what you sow. If you are a farmer of God truth in the last days God encouragement to us is keep

sowing we WILL see a harvest from the seeds of truth that have been sown!

What are the fruits of the spirit?

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Gal 5:23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

But before there is fruit there first a seed that must be sown in order to grow! What is God teaching us? If you want to have the fruits of the Spirit you MUST first sow the seed of the Spirit, not only in your own heart but among others. If you want love first sow the love of Christ. If you want joy, sow joy, if you want peace sow peace. If you want patience, sow patience. If you want gentleness, sow gentleness. If you want goodness sow goodness. If you want faith, sow faith. If you want meekness, sow meekness. If you want temperance, sow temperance. AMEN! NONE of these fruits come without of first sowing their seeds.

Many people want God to grow what has NOT been sown in the heart. TOTALLY IMPOSSIBLE! Again don't expect God to grow you in truth if you have not sown it in your heart.

Belief in the truth of God's Word is the seed that you must receive in your heart. God will grow it into a plant that produces more seed to share with others. You will reap and harvest has well has others.

Remember, how are seeds multiplied? By sowing

What determines the quantity of your harvest? The harvest is proportional the amount of seed that you have sown. This is the law of sow and reaping spiritually and even in the temporal things in life.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

6 But this *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

In other words, if you sow a little your fruit will be in proportion with that; you will receive a little harvest back. If you give bountifully with joy you will reap a great harvest for the glory of God.

Luk 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

You get what you put in PLUS, because GOD IS GROWING IT. REMEMBER YOU SOW IT , GOD GROWS IT.

People today want welfare Christianity. Just send me the blessing without sowing anything. Many people say as long as I show up.

What are some seeds that God is calling for us to sow into the kingdom of God in these last days?

Four T's

time, talent, treasury, and temple...

Time

NO TIME, NO DIME Principle !

Don't expect anything out of anything if you don't sow time into it. Remember it is proportional. If I sow time in the word of God I will reap the harvest of the knowledge of Christ in proportion of how much time I put in it.

In God's work people treat it like a hobby. I do it when I feel like it, but expect big results. In doing God's work you must be intentional and put TIME in doing it. We must stop treating it like a hobby. It is God's work. But the more you sow the more will come back to you to share! Amen.

Talent

The more you use the gifts and talents that God bless you with the more it gives back to you. You learn this principle from the parable of the talents. (Matthew 25:14 - 30)

Summarize: Master went on a journey gave his servants talents (money). Gave talents to 3 servants. Gave one five talents. Another two. Other one. What happen to the one with five and two talents? They used it! And it multiplied. The one who did not lost it. You must sow your gifts in the kingdom of God. Sharing, teaching, preaching, healing, speaking, singing, music, writing, helping, and other practical work for the kingdom of God.

Treasury \$

NEWS, God owes your money. Matter of fact God owes everything you have. NEWS flash God does not NEED your money. You need Him. We all need to learn the principle of giving our treasury to God.

Matthew 6:19-21

- 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:
 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:
 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Where is the best place to “INVEST” God's money?

The best investment is the kingdom of God, not the stock market. God's returns are so much greater. Invest in souls for the kingdom of God.... Don't waste God's money!

Mal 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Mal 3:9 Ye *are* cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, *even* this whole nation.

Mal 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, 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.*

Tithe a tenth of your increase. It is a test of faith of obedience. Offering is voluntary – thanksgiving to God.

Remember God owes your money, what happens when God's money becomes YOUR money?**Luke 18:18-23**

- 18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?
 19 And Jesus said unto him, **Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God.**
 20 **Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.**
 21 And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up.
 22 Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, **Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.**
 23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.

It is NOT about the money, it is about the heart. I am sure if God ask the rich ruler to give a big donation, he would proudly done it. Remember God doesn't need our money, but He does not want His money to become our money that corrupts the heart with selfishness and covetousness. This was the problem with rich young ruler. Giving is a matter of the heart and it should never be forced!

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*

What lesson do we learn from the widow's mite about giving God's money for the kingdom of God?

Mark 12:41-44

- 41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.
- 42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.
- 43 And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, **Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:**
- 44 **For all *they* did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in **all that she had, even all her living.****

This widow SOWED more than those who GAVE more. Don't miss it. Two mites small brass coins that were worth less than two cents in cash value, but much seed sown in the kingdom of God. Her giving was equivalent of what the rich young ruler was to give, she gave ALL. Many of the people gave out of excess or necessity, but the widow gave all she had from the heart! That is how God wants us to sow our treasure, from the heart. Ask God first when you give to HIS work.

The widow gave ALL because she knows who GROWS the seed!

Temple

We are to give our bodies to God. For the kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

- 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
- 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

- 16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?
- 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

Romans 12:1-2

- 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.
- 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Must sow good "seed" food to the body and mind. Feed on the Word of God and fruit and veggies!

In order for a seed to go from "death" to life what MUST you do in order for it to grow into a harvest?

BURY IT! The life of the plant cannot be resurrected unless it is first buried.

What spiritual lesson is Jesus teaches use about a buried seed?

Joh 12:24 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.**

Jesus came as a seed sown in the womb of Mary by the Holy Spirit and grow in wisdom. Ministered to the world on this Earth. Died for our sins and was buried in the tomb and rose up to life.

We MUST be buried spiritually and come up into the newness of life like a plant. Baptism is a seed that is

buried to commemorate your death to sin and new life in Christ.

Romans 6:3-13

- 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
- 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness* of his resurrection:
- 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
- 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.
- 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
- 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.
- 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
- 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
- 13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.

Remember it is your responsibility to sow, but only God can grow. Let learn another value lesson from the ONLY one that can grow us spiritually.

Are you planting Seeds of Faith or Doubt? Do you really TRUST God with your GROWTH?

Matthew 6:24-34

- 24 **No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.**

Money cannot grow you spiritually only God can. Sowing seeds of faith when you put ALL your trust in God. Sowing seeds of doubt, when you depend on money to grow and take care of you.

- 25 **Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought [Greek: no anxiety] for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?**
- 26 **Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?**
- 27 **Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?**
- 28 **And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:**
- 29 **And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**
- 30 **Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?***
- 31 **Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?**
- 32 **(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.**
- 33 **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**
- 34 **Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.**

Seek first to sow into the kingdom of God and his righteousness first! You sow, God grows! He will take care of you as long as you are doing your part for the king of God.

Remember what you reap, what you share. God does not want us to store his blessings to ourselves.

Parable of the Stupid Rich Man!

Luke 12:15-21

- 15 And he said unto them, **Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.**
- 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, **The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:**
- 17 **And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?**
- 18 **And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.**
- 19 **And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.**
- 20 **But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?**
- 21 **So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.**

Fool is the Greek is STUPID!

Lesson: God does not want you to sow unto yourself to only benefit you in the reaping. This is selfishness. What is the point of accumulating stuff and money for self? Rat race living and chasing the invisible carrot.

Sow into the kingdom of God... Time is VERY Short....

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