BAD SEEDS, BAD HARVEST

March 2, 2014 Galatians 6:7-8 by Bob Branch The Secret of the Harvest, Part 2

BIG IDEA: What it means to sow bad seed and reap a bad harvest.

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. **Galatians 6:7–8** ESV

Paul's tone is one of Warning.

We are always sowing something. Scattering seed

- No seeds sown, no HARVEST.
- Seeds produce after their OWN KIND.
- Seeds do not produce fruit IMMEDIATELY, it takes time.
- Seeds are an investment in FUTURE fruit, and MORE fruit.
- Seed sowing is an intentional CHOICE, not a feeling.

1. You can sow <u>BAD SEEDS</u>... We can easily sow seeds to our "own flesh" (v. 8a)

Flesh can be... human body; human initiative/action; not of God's promise, but human initiative; what comes naturally to us, self; desires independent from God; tug-o-war what comes from our initiative/desires vs. God's; self-absorbed vs. Godabsorbed; cravings, lusts, self-absorption, independence from God

6:8 For the one who sows to his own <u>flesh</u> will from the flesh reap corruption...

- In keeping with selfish, sinful desires regardless of God/what he says
- In agreement with our self-absorbed appetites, lusts, cravings
- Building/fortifying our independence from God

2. Bad Seeds produce a <u>SURE HARVEST</u> of ruin, spoiling, decay, wasting away and corruption.

"But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the LORD; and you may be sure that <u>your sin will find you out</u>." **Numbers 32:23** (Gen. 44:16; Is. 59:12)

Corruption- corrupt, ruin, spoiling, decay, wasting away.

3. You can sow bad seeds, but you <u>DON'T HAVE TO!</u> It is our choice.

LET'S GET SPECIFIC:

Overt seeds:

Sexual, sensual & immoral seeds (porn, illicit)

Occultic & idolatrous seeds

Attitude seeds (hatred, hostile, contentious, jealous, angry; self-seeking)

Relational (divisive, dissenting, wanting someone else's happiness)

Substances (drunkenness, partying, orgies)

Power of words (belittling, sarcasm, back-biting, venting)

Covert seeds

Seeds of value thru appearance

Seeds of value through performance, success, education

Omission seeds: Withholding affection/affirmation

WHAT TO DO:

Turn to Jesus! Change your direction.

Ask for forgiveness and restoration of relationship with him.

Confess your sin to another trusted Christian friend and **ask for help**. (James 5:16; 1 John 1:7-9)

Stop sowing that seed. "Don't do that!"