

PLANTING SEEDS

(Galatians 6:7; Numbers 32:23)

. . . But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against YAHWEH and know that your sin will find you out (Numbers 32:23).

Our way of life is such that we always live planting seeds wherever we go or whatever we do. Not realizing the consequences they can bring in the future, we go through life without any concerns of what type of seeds we are planting; and life in its youth lives only for the moment; the future is yet far away, so life goes on planting seeds of all kinds: seeds that produce fruit of blessing and seeds that bring fruit of curse.

Before his death Moses, the servant of YAHWEH, warned Israel concerning their disobedience and the consequences they would suffer. He said, But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against YAHWEH and know that your sin will find you out (Numbers 32:23). The seed of disobedience is rebellion against YAHWEH and its consequences will follow us as long as we live. One cannot escape the consequence of sin of disobedience or any other kind of sin. In some of his Psalms, King David pleaded YAHWEH not to remember the sins of his youth. In other words, let not the seeds I planted while young bring me bad fruit. But as it is, our sins of whatever kind will sure find us out sometime later in life.

The Apostle Paul instructed the Galatians not to be deceived, YAHWEH will not be mocked, for whatever we sow, that we will harvest. The law of sowing and harvesting in nature applies also to human life through our behavior and words used; Ignorant of this fact, man often blames YAHWEH for his circumstances. There is only one way to go through the experience of harvesting the bad seeds without complaining: repentance and acceptance of the consequence of his past sins, for life is not independent of the results or consequences from our actions, good or bad. A good tree will not produce bad fruit; as well as a bad tree will not produce good fruit. The prophet Jeremiah crying over the destruction of Jerusalem and the captivity of the people asks the question, Why should man complain because of the punishment of his sins? Let us test and examine our ways, and let us return to the Lord! Let us lift up our hearts and our hands to YAHWEH in heaven: We have transgressed and rebelled and You have not pardoned (Lamentations 3:39-42). This is the direction the Christian must take to deal with the fruit he is harvesting. YAHWEH is never to be blamed for the consequences of our decision to sin against Him. The way to reconcile with Him is by humbleness and by a broken heart, not by complaining against Him.

Take a moment to look in retrospect the reason for your suffering today and try to understand the law of sowing and reaping. Words, actions of today are seeds planted bearing fruit that we must eat tomorrow. To the righteous man, YAHWEH says, Say to the righteous that it shall be well with them for they shall eat the fruit of their deeds (Isaiah 3:10), but to the sinful person ruin and fall will follow him because his speech and their deeds are against the Lord, to provoke the eyes of His glory and defy His glorious presence (Isaiah 3:8). The integrity of the upright shall guide them, but the willful contrariness and crookedness of the treacherous shall destroy

them (Prov. 11:3); Behold the righteous shall be recompensed on earth; how much more the wicked and the sinner (Prov. 11:31)!

My and your actions of yesterday shaped our today and will continue to shape our tomorrow. It will be wise to consider the consequences of our actions before we bring them forth. Plant seeds today that will bring blessings to you and to others tomorrow and you will experience the goodness and faithfulness of our YAHWEH. Ponder on this question from Lamentations 3:39, Why does a man complain for the punishment of his sins? Know this, whatever is happening to you, you did to yourself; your sins of yesterday are finding you out in your old age. So, as Paul warned us, plant good seeds, for whatever we plant, that we will reap!

The experience of Samson found in the book of Judges chapter sixteen, is never to be ignored; Samson was chosen to be a Nazirite to YAHWEH from birth according to what the angel of the Lord declared to his parents before he was conceived. As a Nazirite, he had to abstain from wine and no razor was to go through his hair; he was chosen for the purpose to deliver Israel out of the hands of the Philistines (vs.5); but instead, he fell into the hands of the Philistines as the results of the bad seeds he planted during his life. Suffering the consequences of his foolishness, he paid with his own life. This is a sad story lived by a man whose beginning was so special, but his decision to follow women instead of YAHWEH, erased his greatness and his divine calling to deliver his people; he instead become bound by his enemies and died together with them as he collected the fruit of the seeds he planted in his youth. Yes, the Lord searches the mind, He tries the heart, even to give to every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings (Jeremiah 17:10).

When Adam and Eve decided to plant the seed of disobedience, the whole world suffered the consequences; even the most innocent part of nature suffered and still suffers its consequences. And in the hope of its freedom in the revealing of YAHWEH'S sons, it moans in the pains of labor, waiting for such revelation (Romans 8:19-23). As in the law of nature one seed planted produces hundreds of fruit; so it is with our behavior, as it is seed we plant, good or bad; it will give us hundreds and hundreds of fruit we must eat while on this earth. Seeds of love are seeds planted which carry an eternal value with heavenly reward, for it heals lives and transport them to YAHSHUA, our Savior, Who loved us with perfect love. Seed of faithfulness opens heaven and let those who planted it to enter and receive the victor's crown.

Don't be deceived my friend, YAHWEH will never be mocked with your seeds of disobedience; rather you will be the one paying the consequences. In your youth plant good seeds that will bring wonderful fruit for you to enjoy when you are old and gray; when your eyes are dim and your strength is gone; when you cannot hear the melodious singing of the birds echoing to YAHWEH songs of praise. Go through life rejoicing while you plant good seeds, for this is the will of YAHWEH for you in your allotted time on earth.

THINK ABOUT IT!