

GREATER BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

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“Investing in the Kingdom of God, by Sowing Seeds for the Saviour” – Matthew 13:24

Is Your Seed Still in the Barn?

Scripture: Haggai 2:18-19

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Although Galatians 6:7, **“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”** is quoted often, in many instances we overlook and/or misunderstand the scriptural meaning of this stewardship principle.

- In this current climate of Christianity where we focus on buildings, budgets, and highly favored blessings, if we are not careful **‘church work’** will redefine the **‘work of the church.’** Meaning God’s mission and ministry for His house will be left undone.
- It is important to sow **good** seed in God’s field. When we do God promises that we will reap an abundant harvest, and in some cases, we will reap more than we have sown. Sowing and reaping is a law of the natural and spiritual world. Sowing and reaping is **analogous** to the Word of God. All Christians are sowers and reapers. The question is, “What kind of seeds do you sow?”

In simple terms, **Haggai 2:18-19** says the **impurity of our hearts and lives** will make the work of our hands, and all our offerings, unclean before God. God will **curse the blessings of the wicked** and make bitter the prosperity of the careless; but he will sweeten the cup of affliction to those who diligently serve him.

Every choice has a **consequence**. Wise and godly decisions will result in God rewarding our faithfulness. If we make sinful and foolish choices, we can anticipate negative consequences. Just imagine the power and potential of the seed already in our hands! However, the seed does us no good if we keep it in the barn. **Read 1 Chronicles 29:11-13**

What do you think about when you hear the term sowing?

Understanding the Scripture...

- Seeds are small in size but packed with possibilities.
- In Haggai chapter 2 the question was asked by the prophet to the people, is your seed yet in the barn?
- Haggai also reminded them that if their seeds were still in the barn, they should not expect a harvest.
- Haggai prophesied to a selfish, stiff-necked, and hard-hearted group of people, who were more concerned about **their own creature comforts**, while the Lord's house stood unfinished for over 15 years.
- The prophet Haggai gives them a glimmer of hope by telling them that if they would only take care of God's business then He would take care of theirs.

Here is the real question: **Where is your seed? Is it still in the barn?**

- We must always remember this, that if you store your seed God can't multiply and grow it. **Cf. Matthew 25:14-30**
- If you sow it, he will grow it. If you release it, he will increase it. If you plant it, he will grant it.
- No one is exempt from the process of sowing, because our great God has given to everyone food to eat and seed to sow.
- You must never misuse nor abuse the seed that God has entrusted you with, because your seed houses the power to transport you from debt to dominion, from deficit to destiny.

The Purpose of the Seed

- The purpose of the seed is to reproduce, restore and replenish the very essence of what it came from whether it is plant or animal life. It is designed to perpetuate itself many times over.
- The main purpose of the seed is that God would not have to **recreate** anything else because **reproduction** is the purpose of the seed.
- In Genesis 1 God gives the seed an awesome command to reproduce after its own kind.
- He commands humankind to reproduce, thus he created male and female and without a seed to sow there will never be anything to grow.
- When I think about the word 'sow', what comes to my mind is this, **Sacrificial Obedience Wins**. In addition, when I think about the word 'seed' what comes to my mind is this, **Spiritual Evidence of Eternal Devotion**. In short, our seeds are actually our deeds.

- The definition of purpose is good intentions, resolution, and determination, to become successful by Reproducing, Restoring, and Rewarding Believers:
Read Genesis 1:11-12 and Genesis 1:26-29

Life as we know it started from the voice of God speaking everything into existence. The record declares that when God started speaking fish started swimming, birds flying, livestock grazing, flowers and grass growing.

- Even to this day our great universe has never needed God to re-light the sun or re-hang the stars. In other words, God has always been and will always be in control of his creation.
- Friends, we must truly understand that our great God has allowed a part of us to live on perpetually through our seed. As we read and comprehend this awesome book on the keys to successful sowing, we must be reminded not to put our great God in a box by placing limits upon Him. If we take the limits off God, he will take us to the outer limits. Yes, the outer limits of our possibilities and expectations. Our great God has promised to provide food for us to eat and seed to sow and whenever we trust God through faith God will in turn give us more faith to trust him even the more.