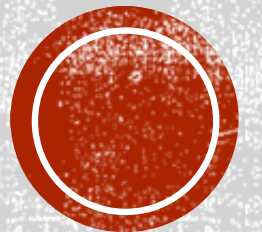


**BE NOT DECEIVED:
SURELY YOU SHALL
REAP WHAT YOU SOW**

**“For they have sown the wind, and they
shall reap the whirlwind” (Hosea 8:7)**



SOWING AND REAPING

- There is no law more certain than the law of sowing and reaping. When Noah and his family came out of the ark, God declared, “While the earth remains, **seedtime and harvest**, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, **shall not cease.**” (Genesis 8:22).


GOD IS NOT MOCKED

- Therefore, Paul declares, “**Do not be deceived: God is not mocked**, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 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.” (Gal. 6:7-8). Also, one of the great truths of this law is that you will almost always reap more than you sow.

CONSEQUENCES FOR DISOBEDIENCE

- Thus, God has declared as long as the earth stands, whatsoever a man sows that shall he also reap.
- While our Lord is a God of mercy, **consequences are always attached to our disobedience.**

THE CASE OF JACOB

- One instance of this fact is seen in the life of Jacob. In Genesis 27 we read that when Jacob's father was old and blind that Jacob deceived his father of Esau's blessing. Consequently, Jacob later reaped deceit when he was to marry Rachel. Laban tricked him into thinking that he was marrying Rachel when in fact it was Leah, her sister. He had worked 7 years for the wrong woman. He had to work another 7 years for Rachel, thus working a total of 14 long years.
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THE CASE OF JACOB

- He was later deceived again when it came to his wages. Hear his complaint: “You know that I have served your father with all my strength, yet your father has **cheated me** and **changed my wages ten times**. But God did not permit him to harm me.” (Genesis 31:6–7). As a consequence, for his deceit he had reaped that which he had sown, therefore showing that God is not to be mocked, you shall surely reap what you sow.



THE CASE OF DAVID

- Another example of this law can be seen in the life of David. These accounts are tragic. We begin by noticing the exchange between Nathan and David as he is confronted about his illicit relationship with Bathsheba: “David said to Nathan, “**I have sinned against the Lord.**” And Nathan said to David, “**The Lord also has put away your sin;** you shall not die.



THE CASE OF DAVID

- **Nevertheless**, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the Lord, the child who is born to you shall die.” (2 Sam. 12:13, 14). Notice that even though David acknowledged his transgressions, he still had to reap what he had sown. In his case, he sowed to the wind, but he was about to reap a whirlwind of heartache and misery. Notice the words of Nathan again as he admonishes David.



THE CASE OF DAVID

- Nathan said to David, “**You are the man!** Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. **Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight?** You have **struck down Uriah** the Hittite with the sword and have **taken his wife to be your wife** and have **killed him with the sword** of the Ammonites.



THE CASE OF DAVID

- **Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’ Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun’” (2 Sam. 12:7-12).**



THE CASE OF DAVID

- Sadly, David had to live his life watching those seeds of sin produce anguish and grief. Note how the fruit of his sins ripen before his eyes from one heart wrenching moment to the next.



DAVID'S SON AMNON RAPES DAVID'S DAUGHTER, HIS OWN SISTER

- But when she brought them near him to eat, **he took hold of her and said to her, “Come, lie with me, my sister.”** She answered him, “**No, my brother**, do not violate me, for such a thing is not done in Israel; do not do this outrageous thing. As for me, where could I carry my shame? And as for you, you would be as one of the outrageous fools in Israel. **Now therefore**, please speak to the king, for he will not withhold me from you.” But he **would not listen to her**, and **being stronger than she, he violated her and lay with her** (2 Samuel 13:11-14).

DAVID'S SON ABSALOM MURDERS HIS OWN BROTHER, DAVID'S SON

- Then Absalom commanded his servants, “Mark when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, **‘Strike Amnon,’ then kill him.** Do not fear; have I not commanded you? Be courageous and be valiant.” **So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded.** Then all the king's sons arose, and each mounted his mule and fled (2 Samuel 13:28–29).

DAVID'S SON ABSALOM COMMITS ADULTERY WITH HIS FATHER'S WIVES

- Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, “Give your counsel. What shall we do?” Ahithophel said to Absalom, “Go in to your father's concubines, whom he has left to keep the house, and all Israel will hear that you have made yourself a stench to your father, and the hands of all who are with you will be strengthened.” So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof. **And Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel (2 Samuel 16:20-22).**

DECEITFULNESS OF SIN

- All of this originated from David sowing seeds of sin, at one moment in time, but he reaped the consequences for a lifetime. The choices that we make in this life will always have consequences. If we sow sin we will always reap the effects of sin. Sin is deceitful. The Hebrew's writer observed that we should "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the **deceitfulness of sin**" (Hebrews 4:13).

THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF SIN

- ***Sin does not tell you all the pain and embarrassment that it will cause you when it is done with you. And sin is never done with you when you are done with it.*** The end results are always devastating and life changing. We should also be aware that the choices we make today will not only affect us today but our posterity as well.

THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF SIN

- Sadly, many innocent lives are affected by the choices of others. Children's lives are turned upside down because of the sins of parents. Spouses are affected because of the sins of their mates. Churches are influenced by the sins of its leaders and members. We should not give occasion to the enemies (the world) of the Lord to blaspheme against the God of heaven. (2 Sam. 12:14).

CONCLUSION

- Some closing thoughts: We not only reap because of sin, but the wonderful thing is that we reap for the good that we do as well. Hear Paul: “whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” (2 Cor. 9:6b; Eccl. 12:14; Mt. 12:33; Mt. 13:23; Luke 6:68; Gal. 5:22-23).
- God is also able to **turn sorrow and tears into joy** (Ps. 126:5).



CONCLUSION

- **The conclusion: Whenever we sin, consequences are always attached to our decisions. Far too many do not count the cost with the choices that they make and sadly, they have to live with the results of those decisions for the rest of their lives. We should be cautious and wise in the decisions that we make - sit back and evaluate the possible consequences of our actions.**



CONCLUSION

- We do not have to make choices which God has already made for us – that is – if something is a sin - do not put yourself in situations that will lead you to sin. Exercise self-control, because surely, you shall reap what you sow and you will most definitely reap more than you have sown. Count the cost before you make a decision, the choice that you make - just may cost you everything – even your soul.

