



Contents

Introduction	ix
Chapter 1: Consider Your Sowing	1
Chapter 2: Healing of the Land	27
Chapter 3: Fall into the Ground	59
Chapter 4: The Sower's Field	89
Chapter 5: The Garden of God	129
Chapter 6: Wheat and Tares	175
Chapter 7: The Harvest!	221
Acknowledgments	252
About the Author	255



Introduction

The field.

The seed.

The harvest.

What does each represent in our lives?

What should be our response?

Jesus spoke about different ground conditions and the varying responses from the seed that was sown in Matthew 13 and Luke 8.

My objective is to discover why there are such diverse responses to the preaching of the Gospel. The same gospel can be preached to many people at the same time, but a variety of responses occur.

The seed that Jesus talks about was all the same but the different types of ground caused different results in harvest. Each ground type has a specific spiritual meaning in our lives.

My thirty years of intense dealing with deep spiritual problems in many peoples' lives in the United States and in numerous countries around the world has caused me to draw obvious conclusions from these passages about the four different ground types.

I will seek to bring to light answers that are found throughout the Bible. These truths are life changing for those who apply the answers to their lives.

There is hope for those who are sincerely seeking help in their weary struggles. Even though damage may have been done in peoples' lives, it doesn't always mean that's the end of the story. I come bearing hope.

I want to come with the power of the Word of God to bring change to a world that is dying of sin and hurt.

The complex closing of the age is the introduction of all types of ideas and strategies that have left many without foundation that can be sanctioned by God. There is a cry from the wilderness of Elijah and John the Baptist and many men of God of the distant past.

These men were carriers of the message of mighty revival, the proven method of cure for sin, and the remedy to introduce the abundant life.

With the last day on the horizon, the church will seek for answers outside the Bible because the dim light of reason will overcast the light of truth.

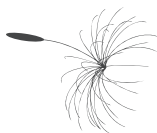
The lamps are now running low, and many will fail because of prominent attractions that rob the fields of harvest.

I will seek to explain deliverances and conversions that have occurred just as the Word of God promises, changing many souls by His power. These clear truths have brought individuals into a freedom to serve God without all the baggage of the past.

Far too many well-meaning Christians drag along life's pathway defeated and under-powered, not knowing that there is a better way—God's way. His way works in the land of the living! Yes, today.

As I am writing this book, my prayer is that the Word of God by the power of the Holy Spirit will start a work within your heart that will change you into the image and likeness of Jesus Christ and that strongholds would be broken from your life. I pray that you might find what Jesus said about Himself (“My yoke is easy and my burden is light”), and that you will find rest for your souls!

Wayne Weaver





CHAPTER ONE

Consider Your Sowing

Sowing seeds. Scattering seeds. Everyone is sowing seeds.

Seeds are constantly being spread among the daily activities of our lives. Known or unknown, each seed has its own reaping.

I have witnessed tragic reapings from seeds that many do not recall sowing. A few questions reveal the story to be a sad picture of a life lived recklessly without the fear of God. The person had loaded the “ground” of his life with seeds and had been completely unaware of the great potential residing in those seeds. A very unpleasant reaping was totally unexpected because of the blindness of the natural man.

We want to consider the principle of sowing and highlight the importance of every word we speak and every deed we do. God has been deeply grieved by “ungodly kindness” that well-meaning people have sown entirely without the fear of God. As I hear and observe decisions that people make, I ask myself the question, *Was that a generational decision? Or was it a reckless decision made on impulse without the fear of God? Or was it both?* I want to appeal to you to

consider these two questions in depth, for what the sower soweth, that shall he also reap! (Galatians 6:7).

The Sower's Seed

There are several ways that seeds are sown. It is important to understand that about 95% of our life effect and how we carry out our life calling is done through less than 2% of our body—the tongue. This puts a great importance on the tongue.

But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing (James 3:8-10).

The tongue is the tool that most often serves as the wheel that broadcasts seed. The tongue is directly connected to the bin where the seed is stored; and this is critical, because this bin is the heart. For out of the heart the mouth speaketh.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Romans 10:10).

When someone only believes from the heart, it will not be sufficient to bring salvation. Belief also needs to be confessed with the mouth—an audible sound through the mouth coming from the heart.

Audible sounds are broadcast all day long from our lips as a way of communication. In the Christian life, audible communication brings the blessing of fellowship with God and our fellow believers.

First, I want to address blessing with the tongue.

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life; but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit (Proverbs 15:4).

Sometimes we experience spiritual uplifting from prayer or a spiritual meeting. I have noticed that at times the aura of spiritual refreshing disappears faster than it was received. This leaves a sense of deep emptiness within. I have analyzed moments like this in my own life and have found that wrong or untimely words spoken in our presence or even from our own mouths always cause a breach in our spirit. In Hebrew the word *perverseness* means *destructive* and thus indicates that someone has spoken something that destroys what had been received.

A breach in the spirit is a crack in the cistern—and the water is wasted. Or as someone has said, if there's a crack in the lantern, the flame fizzles out even in the slightest wind.

The twelve spies sent out by Moses to see what the Promised Land and the people were like all “saw” the same situation. Only two spoke hope. The other ten could never enter the land promised to them because they had unbelief. Unbelief caused them to see things differently than Joshua and Caleb. Those two men saw through the eyes of God.

Parents can have a great effect on child development by the words they speak into their children when they are yet young and tender. During this stage in a child's life, parents have this great responsibility of preparing good ground for good seed. Very

soon their children will be subjected to seeds tossed at them from numerous sources, both good and evil.

An environment that continuously exposes a developing child to evil seed will certainly have a large negative impact on the child. This kind of atmosphere will pave the way for the child to develop a seeming immunity to evil words.

There is a tendency to only consider evil as “truly evil” when there is lots of it. Human tendency is to discount the effect of a lesser

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amount of evil. A lesser amount of evil seems to appeal to human nature and is often overlooked. Excuses are often made for small sins or evils.

Truth is, whether there is a large or small amount, there is still only one source of evil. It is not the amount of evil, but the source of it that makes evil sinful.

I always try to identify the source of evil, rather than considering how it might appeal to human nature. If Eve would have considered the source of the suggestion at the tree of knowledge in the Garden of Eden, the temptation might have completely vanished. She was spiritually gazing at the tree and not at the serpent. The tree appeared less evil. The source of this great evil was hidden. Her opinion and reasoning overlooked the source of the suggestion.

After she reasoned, she yielded to Satan. One bite of sweet fruit brought utter damnation and ultimate, eternal banishment from God. A seemingly small and inconsequential error. But, oh, how great was that “small” error. The entire human race was thrown into

the wrath of Almighty God, to be judged, because all are now born into sin.

We see that Eve's decision was a generational decision, a decision that has generational implications. How can something as simple as eating a certain food have such terrible consequences? The answer is clear.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly (John 10:10).

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17).

Generational Decisions

Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of hosts, is his name, (Jeremiah 32:18).

I know of an incident where many people who would profess to be followers of Christ congratulated a fornicating young man on the birth of his child. The child had been conceived through sin.

If we give a careless respect to another person's sin for the sake of friendship with the sinner, it can yield devastation in the generations who follow us. Such carelessness with evil can serve as the seeded groundwork to produce the same sin that was congratulated. The sin shows itself again and is congratulated again, and it works like a stamp of approval, seeding a harvest that can appear in future generations.

Continuously, I hear of instances that are in violation of Christ and His Word or in violation of principles of God's pure standards of holiness. My question: Were these generational decisions? Are they seed-producing statements that will reappear in the sower's future?

Oh, the danger of reckless living and recklessly spoken words! I have witnessed many, many people making fearless remarks against the Holy Ghost and men of God. Today, those people are not living God-fearing lives. They don't know what has happened. They have no openness to solutions to their deep-seated problems. Many live in fear while soaking in lukewarmness, waiting to die and for God to decide their destiny.

In this life of service, there are many ways we can sow into our future. Using God's name in vain, using bywords that often start with the same letters as specific words from the Bible, or using words of cursing and vulgarity can all be seeds sown into our future.

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain (Exodus 20:7).

Christian people would usually not use the name of Jesus to curse, but the short form *jeez* can go undetected. This is a seed

sown that one day can revisit the life of the speaker unless it is acknowledged and truly repented of. There is a possibility God's mercy may wink at the ignorance of the poor soul. I always sense a grieving in my heart when someone uses words with recklessness. We want to consider some examples in the Bible.

When Joshua took Jericho, God cursed the city and Joshua declared it to the generations! The declaration: "Cursed be the man that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho. Whoever violates and builds it again will lose his first born child while they are laying the foundation of the city wall. The youngest son will die while they are setting up the gates" (Joshua 6:26 paraphrase).

Generations continued to propagate the general territory of Qumran, and the dangers of Jericho's destruction dissipated into a forgotten era. After the city walls had lain leveled for 500 years without any hope of future use, Hiel, the Bethelite, found interest in restoring the old city.

Rebuilding began of this place known as the oldest recorded city, even in today's history. Perhaps the curse spoken by Joshua seemed innocent and even dormant or nonexistent. It was certainly invisible. Was it lodged in the heavens? Or, in the dusty sands of the territory?

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The curse became extremely alive and visible when Hiel's firstborn son Abiram lost his life laying the foundation and Hiel's youngest son died at the setting of the gates.

In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun (1 Kings 16:34).

When things go desperately wrong with unfounded understanding, I always wonder where the trouble came from or if there are hidden things. Are there spiritual attachments to the incident?

We find another example that can be taken from the very courts of Pilate. Awful accusations from the elders and chief priests, who were steeped in complete untruth, were flung against the Christ, the Holy Son of God. He stood without defending Himself. Even Pilate, the governor, marveled.

Christ was tried in the court at the time of a Jewish feast. Traditionally, a prisoner could be released at the time of this feast. After further research, I have concluded the man Barabbas, one who was eligible for release along with Jesus, was a wicked seditionist rebel and murderer, filled with hate against Jewish rule. In total blindness, the Jews chose to release Barabbas, a man filled with rejection of Jesus Christ the Messiah.