

~ HIM THAT IS TAUGHT IN THE WORD....

GALATIANS 6:6 – 11

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~ Our Spiritual Safari has learned some terribly difficult lessons in the last several reports from this leg of our expedition through the hillside country of the Galatians. This report isn't going to be any easier; in fact, this report may hurt the most of the previous five. However, Paul also told Timothy that, *".... all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."* Well, correction and reproof are precisely what we're going to find in this section of Scripture, friends. If you are one of the little spiritual babies who constantly needs your carnality satiated, your best bet is to crawl back in your crib, curl up with the blanket, and go back to sleep; because you aren't going to appreciate this safari report one bit. Consider yourself warned.

In our last report, we considered how pride is the single biggest problematic sin in modern ministry. Shockingly, we don't hear of many preachers being accused of committing the sin of pride. Only those who hold sound doctrine are accused of being proud; because we teach with authority. To be fair, I am guilty of sinful pride from time to time, but I see a disturbing trend of cliques in modern Christian circles comprised of uber-pompous self-professing believers who insist in their ignorance while repeating misguided, half-baked doctrine. Some people speak as if they are a Bible authority, but they don't even use correct Bible words. I see hundreds of people parroting *"a-men"* and *"praise the Lord"* – and other things – in response to vain, dead and meaningless nonsense.

A preacher once gave a sermon and, afterwards, a lady came up to thank him for the message. She said, *".... pastor, I enjoyed your sermon this morning."* The pastor replied, *".... oh, don't thank me for the sermon – thank the Lord!"* The lady retorted, *".... well, I thought about that – but – it wasn't quite THAT good."*

You cannot put one little star in motion ~ you cannot shape a single forest leaf ~ nor fling a mountain up or sink an ocean ~ presumptuous pygmies ~

you are large with unbelief ~ you cannot direct a single dawn of regal splendor ~ nor bid the day to a shadow at twilight fall ~ nor send the pale moon forth with radiance tender ~ and yet you doubt the One Who has done it all ~

God is the only Creator and the Redeemer of us all, my friend; that should keep us humble - and that was the message of our last report....

***6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.***

~ This may be the bluntest verse in the entire Bible. Paul is putting it all on the line now. The Greek word for 'communicate' is the same word we translate 'sharing.' That means to take part in and share the things of the Lord Jesus Christ together. Quite frankly, this means to pay your preacher. If someone blesses us spiritually, then we are to minister to them with material benefits. God has blessed many people materially who do not minister reciprocally. They do not properly support the place where they receive their spiritual blessings. Frankly, they're robbing God – period.

Of course, we must view this from the perspective of grace. However, if you eat a nice dinner, and then advise the waiter you're going to pay the bill at another restaurant, it won't go well for you. Someone says, "that's absurd!" It sure is, friends, it is as absurd as most of the so-called Christian giving that goes on today. If you have a good Bible church, you are to support that church. Or, it may be a missionary ministry that brings you and the entire world the entire Word of God in sound doctrine that you should be supporting. That's the way God intends for things to be.

***7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.***

~ We have visited this remarkable passage of Scripture many times on safari. We need to carefully consider this every time we see it. To take this verse lightly is borderline heresy, my friends. Behold, a reaper went forth to reap! Jesus said, "*behold, a sower went forth to sow.*" Well, here is where the harvest that was sown is reaped! A visitor to a prison passed a cell

where an inmate was patching his prison garb sewing with a needle and thread. The visitor looked in and said to the inmate, “.... what are you doing, sewing?” The prisoner replied, “.... no, I’m reaping!” Well, that’s quite a principle to understand....

***8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.***

~ These are immutable, irrevocable, unalterable, indisputable, irrefutable and invariable truths that will never change. These profound statements are applicable to every sphere of existence you and I occupy. This cuts across agriculture and horticulture and all the way down to psychology, physiology, physics and philosophy. You’ll never pick squash from a walnut tree, nor a pumpkin from a watermelon patch — nature just doesn’t make those mistakes — maybe you need to write that down? They found five-thousand-year-old wheat seed in the tombs of Egypt and planted those seeds – and guess what grew? – Wheat. If you sow sin, then sin is going to come up and grow, friends; it simply cannot, and will not, be otherwise.

Remember, Jacob deceived Isaac by putting on goat skin to appear to be his brother Esau. Isaac felt and smelled Jacob, and was tricked. Jacob took off to Uncle Laban’s house and he thought he got by with the whole thing; until it came time to get married. Jacob had been promised Rachel by Laban, but Jacob got Leah underneath the veil. That made for a precarious honeymoon, don’t you think? Well, Leah was no Rachel, you may be sure of that. We don’t reap something similar to what we sow – we reap the identical thing.

King Ahab and Queen Jezebel thought they were going to get away with murdering Naboth for his vineyard. Elijah told them they would not get away with such a dastardly deed. Elijah told Ahab that the same place Naboth had been murdered was the same spot Ahab’s blood would be licked up by dogs. Ahab and Jezebel must have laughed for hours and even days at Elijah. Interestingly, Ahab said to himself, “.... *well, I’ll just stay away from that place to make sure.*” He never did enjoy the vineyard. Then came the day when Ahab was fatally wounded in battle by a ‘bow at a venture.’ It was a chance arrow shot after the battle was over; and it hit

Ahab right between the harnesses. Ahab told his chariot driver to get him away from the battlefield so the enemy wouldn't take his body; and the chariot driver took him unwittingly straight to the vineyard Naboth had owned – to the very spot where Naboth had been slain! Ahab died there; and the dogs licked up his blood.

Paul was the leader at the stoning of Steven in Jerusalem. Paul, in turn, was stoned in Lystra and left for dead. Now, for you who say, “... *I'm a Christian and my sins are forgiven:*” yes, they are, but this is a law of God that always works itself our down here. You reap – you sow, my Christian friend – every time. Lord Byron said, “... *my life is now a yellow leaf; all the fruits and flowers are gone. Now, the worm, the canker and the grief are all mine alone!*” How doleful. Dr. Robert Lee was a fine preacher years ago who had a sermon entitled, “Payday! - Some day!” He used the account of Jezebel, too.

Dr. Mel Trotter was likely the greatest evangelist mankind has ever known. He was a marvelously converted drunken bum. Dr. Trotter went with some colleagues to a carnival fair one time. Everyone in his party ordered great big sloppy milkshakes and all kinds of stuff that was bad for a person; but Dr. Trotter ordered a small glass of water. Everyone teased him about the glass of water. One of them asked why he only ordered that. Dr. Trotter replied, “... *when the Lord gave me a new heart at my conversion He didn't give me a new stomach.*” Don't be deceived, God is not mocked; you'll not get by with anything in this life. This section of Scripture is written to **BELIEVERS**. I wish a lot of young people today could grasp such profound truth. Take drugs, drink up, and take pills if you want to – you'll pay. Have sex with every woman who comes along; trust me – you'll pay. You will not get away with your sins....

***9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.***

~ “*Reaping life everlasting*” in verse eight means to reap the fruits of the spirit. That is a glorious prospect for the future! Frankly, many Christians who say they want Jesus to return now to take His Own out of the world should be deathly afraid of that happening; because we will all go before

His Bema judgment seat to have our works judged. Yes, sins will be blotted out, but that means some people's lives are going to just be totally blotted out! If that doesn't make the hair on your neck stand up, I just don't know what would? When we give an account of the things we did in our flesh, some of us will be utterly at zero. You may be saved, but there are many saved who will be ashamed at the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you live in the flesh, and only produce those fleshy things, then I am *NOT* saying you lose your salvation – because I don't think you do – but, you're sure not going to get a reward – if you ever were truly saved. Candidly, that will be a very dark day for some people when they stand before Him; make no mistake about these things, friends.

Thank God for His comfort and encouragement and that He states the bright side of this in verse nine. Even so, if you do the right things, and do well according to the Lord, you are going to find everyone, and everything is working against you in this world. That's the way it is. Jesus said, *"the world hated Me, and they are going to hate you."* That's not a maybe. That doesn't mean sometimes. That's a promise that is as real as raindrops are wet! In fact, if this world loves you for the things you do in this world, then you are not a child of God; because that would be Scripturally impossible. Jesus told the apostles, *"in this world you WILL have trouble."* Have you found Jesus' words true in your life? I have. One cannot cut grain in Kansas in the middle of January; you'll have to wait until the time comes. So, while you're waiting, continue sowing — and don't get weary of doing well. We all have problems and difficulties as children of God; all we can do is continue to sow the seed thereof in sound doctrine. His Word will not return to Him void. If you sow the Word of God, it will bring a harvest at *exactly* the right time....

***10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.***

~ Now, I recognize liberalism believes they are the *"do good"* religion. The problem is: they don't do much good. When the television cameras appear, the liberals crawl all over the place — like cockroaches; but when the publicity ceases, the liberal leaves and the good isn't done anymore. Of course, I believe in doing good things — *but* — those good things have to be

done on the right foundation; or the process, intent and modus operandi is fraudulent. We see it all the time in a modern church, my beloved. When we have the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the fruit of the Spirit is growing in our lives, then we are *naturally* going to do good things — for all men — but especially believers. This is so important for us to get straight in our thinking....

***11 Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand***  
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~~~~~ *Andrew C. Hunt*