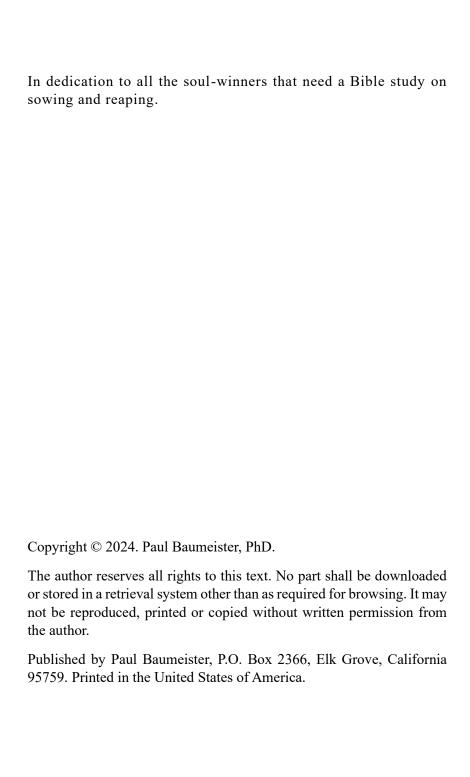
# CITY OF THE LIVING GOD

THE LAW OF THE HARVEST

18)
SERIES





## City of the Living God



"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits." (Matt. 7:15-20).

The Bible is very clear that our lives bear the fruit by the type of seed that we plant and how we nurture them. Not only can we see the bad fruit from false prophets, but we can see them in our own lives by how we live our lives. Our present behaviors have a direct correlation with the lives that we will live in the future. That is why it is so important how we live right now. Oftentimes it does not only affect our future lives, but those that we love the most.

## SOWING AND REAPING

Based on the Bible's laws of the harvest there are many principles of sowing and reaping. The Apostle Paul refers to this principle in his epistles. We will address three of the principles.

#### Galatians 6:7-8

"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."

#### 2 Corinthians 9:6

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

## THE HARVEST IS LIMITED TO THE PLANTING

We can only harvest that which we planted. This relates to all of our lives in so many aspects. It touches our lives in so many ways. If we live sinful lives, it will produce bad fruit that affects our future. If we have kids and they are raised around our sinful lives it will affect them. That is what we call generational sins. That sinful life will often affect our kid's lives and can possibly destroy their future. That is why understanding how our actions today affect our lives tomorrow is vital to living a successful Christian life. How many times have we regretted our past actions?

On the other hand, the planting of good ground lays the way for a bright future for us and our families. Sowing good behavior opens the door for a bright future and we will reap the benefits of it later on in our lives.

#### **Ephesians 5:15-17**

"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

#### Proverbs 14:12

"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."

#### **Psalms 1:1-6**

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers."

## THE HARVEST COMES AFTER THE PLANTING

Oftentimes we do not see the fruit of our work or lives until later after we have sowed the seed. It takes time to germinate and sprout. There are seasons for planting and seasons for reaping the harvest. We cannot expect that after we give our lives to God that everything will fall in place. It takes times. We can be assured that it will happen because it is the law of the harvest.

#### Galatians 6:9

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

## THE HARVEST IS PROPORTIONAL

When speaking about the harvest, it is obvious that the amount of the harvest depends upon how much is sowed. You cannot expect to reap a ton of fruit, if you planted a minimal number of seeds. The harvest is proportional to the number of seeds that are planted. Surely our actions as Christians have a significant impact upon our future.

The law of the harvest is not only speaking about our actions, but it relates to our giving.

#### Proverbs 19:17

"He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, And He will pay back what he has given."

Jesus speaks about how when we give unto the Lord, that we will reap in abundance. Often times people miss this because they think that when we give we are left with less. However, God says when we give, that the giving will not return without a harvest. In fact, the only place in the Bible where God tells us to test him is in giving.

#### Luke 6:38

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

#### Malachi 3:10

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.



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