

Be Careful What You Cultivate (Devotional)

Psalm 109:14-20 says,

14 May the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the Lord; may the sin of his mother never be blotted out.

15 May their sins always remain before the Lord, that He may cut off the memory of them from the Earth.

16 For he never thought of doing a kindness, but hounded to death the poor and the needy and the brokenhearted.

17 He loved to pronounce a curse – may it come on him; he found no pleasure in blessing – may it be far from him.

18 He wore cursing as his garment; it entered into his body like water, into his bones like oil.

19 May it be like a cloak wrapped about him, like a belt tied forever around him.

20 May this be the Lord's payment to my accusers, to those who speak evil of me.

We have just recently studied about how our God is a God of love, and He demands that those who are His will love (and hate) the same things He does, for what we love determines how we live, both now and on into eternity. What delights us also directs us. David wrote about his enemies, ***“He loved to pronounce a curse – may it come on him; he found no pleasure in blessing – may it be far from him.”*** What do you love? In what do you relish and find delight? You reap exactly what you sow, according to the Apostle Paul in Galatians 6:7. David's enemies were sowing curses, and he knew they were going to reap a harvest of misery. They were running away from the Source of blessings, God. David knew that in missing the blessings of God, they were going to miss the joys and purposes of not only this life, but the afterlife as well. Let us be sure and careful just how we cultivate the appetites of our inner person, our inner being. What we love we may get, and after we get it we may end up with deep regret. There may be some fun in sowing sin, but there is absolutely no joy when the time of reaping arrives. Christians may toil and shed tears for the moment, but their great joy will come in the reaping. But for those who live for the flesh and the carnal ways of the world, the joy is momentarily found in the sowing. But what they will end up facing are the trial and the tears when they reap their harvest of eternal destruction. If you take what you want from life, you will end up having to pay for it.

How important it is to cultivate our spiritual appetites! How important it is to have an appetite for the word of God, to long to be sequestered alone with the Lord in prayer, to be with His people and to delight in the worship and service of God! Cultivate those appetites of your inner person that lead to spiritual growth. Keep them in check by feeding on God's word daily and by walking with the Lord. He will use your appetites to bring blessing to your life and to others.