

Joel 3:13-14 (NKJV)

¹³ Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; For the winepress is full, The vats overflow-- For their wickedness *is* great."

¹⁴ Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision.

Two revelations will change our attitude to evangelism: There is a Harvest

John 4:35 (NKJV)

³⁵ Do you not say, 'There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!

Ecclesiastes 11:4 (NKJV)

⁴ He who observes the wind will not sow, And he who regards the clouds will not reap.

There is a Lord of the harvest

Matthew 9:37-38 (NKJV)

³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers *are* few.

³⁸ Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Four Stages of Harvest

Mark 4:26-29 (NKJV)

²⁶ And He said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground,

²⁷ and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how.

²⁸ For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head.

²⁹ But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

Ploughing

Hosea 10:12 (NKJV)

¹² Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For *it is* time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

1 Corinthians 9:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Or does He say *it* altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, *this* is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope.

Ephesians 4:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (NKJV)

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Matthew 13:3-9 (NKJV)

³ Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow.

⁴ And as he sowed, some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.

⁵ Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth.

⁶ But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away.

⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them.

⁸ But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

⁹ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Matthew 13:18-23 (NKJV)

¹⁸ "Therefore hear the parable of the sower:

¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

²⁰ But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

²² Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

²³ But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands *it*, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

- Hard ground - hearts that are hardened against the Gospel
- Rocky ground - hearts whose response has no depth
- Thorny ground - hearts entangled by worldly cares
- Good ground - hearts that respond to the Gospel

Isaiah 28:24-26 (NKJV)

²⁴ Does the plowman keep plowing all day to sow? Does he keep turning his soil and breaking the clods?

²⁵ When he has leveled its surface, Does he not sow the black cummin And scatter the cummin, Plant the wheat in rows, The barley in the appointed place, And the spelt in its place?

²⁶ For He instructs him in right judgment, His God teaches him.

Sowing

2 Corinthians 9:6 (NKJV)

⁶ But this *I say*: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Amos 9:13 (NKJV)

¹³ "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; The mountains shall drip with sweet wine, And all the hills shall flow *with it*."

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Watering

1 Corinthians 3:6 (AMP)

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God [all the while] was making it grow *and* [He] gave the increase.

Reaping

Psalm 126:5-6 (AMP)

⁵ They who sow in tears shall reap in joy *and* singing.

⁶ He who goes forth bearing seed and weeping [at needing his precious supply of grain for sowing] shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

John 4:37-38 (AMP)

³⁷ For in this the saying holds true, One sows and another reaps.

³⁸ I sent you to reap a crop for which you have not toiled. Other men have labored and you have stepped in to reap the results of their work.

1 Corinthians 3:7-9 (AMP)

⁷ So neither he who plants is anything nor he who waters, but [only] God Who makes it grow *and* become greater.

⁸ He who plants and he who waters are equal (one in aim, of the same importance and esteem), yet each shall receive his own reward (wages), according to his own labor.

⁹ For we are fellow workmen (joint promoters, laborers together) with *and* for God; *you* are God's garden *and* vineyard *and* field under cultivation, [you are] God's building.

Matthew 24:14 (AMP)

¹⁴ And this good news of the kingdom (the Gospel) will be preached throughout the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then will come the end.