

Empowered by God's Promise

Galatians 6:9

Introduction: There are only *two controlling powers* for life. Each of us lives under the dominion of either the flesh or the Spirit. And those two controlling powers produce *two kinds of sowing*. If you are of the flesh, you sow to the flesh; if you're of the Spirit, you sow to the Spirit. And they produce *two different kinds of harvest*: we will from the flesh reap corruption; we will from the Spirit reap eternal life. There's a significant eternal gap between the two. This is a serious, sober *warning* to people to be certain that they are in the Spirit. But it is also a *promise* to those who are in the Spirit. It's not just that if you sow to the flesh you'll reap corruption; it is also if you sow to the Spirit you'll reap eternal life. That's what leads Paul to verses 9-10. In verse 9 we find that:

“Take-home” truth: The promise of a good and eternal harvest empowers believers to persevere.

I. The cause for this promise: It gives strength to the weary. (6:9a)

II. The content of the promise: You will reap a harvest for every seed sown in response to the Spirit's work. (6:9b)

A. At God's appointed time, the harvest will come in.

B. Nothing of what has been sown in obedience to the Spirit of God will be lost.

III. A condition to the promise: The promise of harvest is for those who do not quit. (6:9c)

A. You must focus and keep pressing on because the harvest is future.

B. As you live the Spirit-led life, you live it in hope and anticipation of the future.

[Conclusion]

The connection of the promise to the context:

- We have a future orientation: by the work of the Spirit producing faith in us, we live in the light of something for which we hope.
- We have faith in Christ and love for all the saints because we have a hope laid up in heaven.