

November 27, 2021

Gal. 6:9 *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. (NIV)*

I love the encouragement that Paul gives as he reminds us all to be patient. I need to hear this daily. I'm not very patient sometimes and I know that this only comes from a complete confidence in the LORD. I want things to happen now. I'm looking for the harvest now. I've mentioned my grandfather many times. He was the essence of patience to me. Not only was he patient as a farmer, he was very patient with me. When I couldn't easily understand his instructions, he would 'draw me a picture.' He would take time with me. I so appreciate that. This is never more important than when we sow the seeds of the gospel. I think it is easy for us to explain salvation to someone and then expect that they will immediately receive the good news. However, it is more often a season of planting, cultivating and then harvest. You cannot harvest a crop that you have just planted. It takes time and patience.

The picture that Paul paints here is to not become weary and do not give up. This brings up two obvious questions: how and why? How do we keep on doing what we should when it seems there is no answer or finish in sight? And, why doesn't the LORD just come back now. Why does He wait so long? **2 Pt. 3:9** reminds us: ***The LORD is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*** (NIV) As impatient people, we don't like to wait, but when you realize that His timing is perfect, it is certainly worth waiting for.

For years, my wife and I prayed for her father to be saved. He was a good, hard-working man who really didn't see a need for salvation. He felt that he was doing well enough to be okay before the LORD. We prayed daily for his salvation. A few days before he passed away, I shared with him the gospel again, and this time, he realized that he needed forgiveness and security. He prayed and asked the LORD to forgive him and he received Him as his LORD and Savior. ***For at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.***

Dear LORD, help us to not become weary in doing what we know is right. Help us to carry the torch of salvation to a dark world. Give us the patience we need to not give in to our own desires. In Jesus Name, Amen