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From Hired Servants to **SONS OF GOD**

How many of us have ever sowed but have not seen the harvest we were hoping for? Have you ever been taught to give & expect a hundred fold in return, to name your seed, keep track of it, stand until you see the harvest? I think we've all been there, wondering what we've done wrong... until we're told we just didn't give enough!

I believe that somehow in the body of Christ we have fallen into formulas (7 steps to prosperity and 3 points on how to get blessed) and have gone away from the simplicity of the Gospel, forgetting that it is really all about grace and relationship. We have fallen into works and out of grace, trying to earn something God has already given... and I am preaching to myself also!

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. 2Cor. 8:9

Doesn't it say that we become rich by the grace (favor) of God, by the finished work of Christ on the cross and not by our own works? Paul says also that grace is no longer grace or a free gift, if it is earned? We do not earn salvation, we do not earn healing, and neither do we earn our prosperity, we must receive it by faith. We are not blessed because we give, give and give some more, but we are blessed because Jesus loved us so much and became poor so that we might become rich.

Rom.8:32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Gal.4:7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir of God through Jesus Christ.

Luke 15:31 And he said to him, Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

God is not my employer, He is my Father & all He has, I have access to. I must believe it and receive it by faith.

Look at the birds, they neither sow nor reap nor gather /

into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them, are you not of more value than they? Matt. 6:26

Don't take me wrong, the bible teaches about giving and sowing, but our giving should not be motivated by fear, guilt or a sense of obligation, and definitely not by greed. Our giving should be an expression and act of our faith, we give because we understand that God is our Father and has already blessed us I don't give to get blessed, I give because I am blessed, even though I might not see it yet in the natural. When God leads us to give He is simply helping us to release our faith so we can see the manifestation. James says that faith without works (or corresponding actions) is dead (or inactive).

Also we should give because we love God, we want to thank Him, honor Him. We must not give because we are afraid to get under a curse (we are redeemed from the curse of the law) but we give because we want to be a giver and a blessing like our Father. After all, we are to be imitators of God.

We also give because we work in the family business "Father and Sons." Our desire should be to further the Kingdom, our heart to be a blessing to people, and at the end of the day, we know, we have been useful to the Father.

Servants work for hire... they only give when there is something in there for them but sons don't, why? Because they have a sense of ownership... the Father's business is also their business!

Matt.20:16 The last will be first and the first last. For many are called but few are chosen (favorite, the best of its kind, excellent and preeminent).

In this parable Jesus is separating those who went on the field for a known salary, from the ones who just obeyed the Lord, trusting him to be fair, generous and good.

God is looking for such! We must get out of that hiring mentality... I will give only because I'll get blessed, I will sow \$1 to get \$100... but rather we must seek to be a blessing knowing that the Father is indeed faithful, good and generous, and His desire is to increase us. ♦

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