



# The Bible Banner



August 2014

## SOWING AND REAPING

A man was told that he would have to leave the property he was renting, because his landlord's son was moving onto it. Angry and spiteful, one night he went out and sowed, in the fields on the property, the worst weed seeds he could find.

The next day he was again visited. Now he was told that things had changed and the son was going to live in the city. He could keep the property. Great was his sorrow when he realized what he would have to reap. Are you sowing seeds that you will regret to reap one day?

## Pizzachini Fry

*This recipe is very flexible; season it as you like, and use whatever you have from the garden or leftover sauce within reason.*

Non-GMO Zucchini chunks to fill a 13" skillet (it will cook down)

1 onion, chopped

1 cup of breading mix (below)

1 -1/2 cups of pizza or spaghetti sauce



Steam or saute zucchini and onion with water or olive oil until tender. When tender, add breading mix and pizza sauce, and continue cooking until it forms almost a cheese-like

consistency. Breading Mix - 1/2 cup crushed NON-GMO cornflakes or other bread crumbs, 1/2 cup flour, seasoned to taste with garlic powder, onion powder, salt and vegan beef-style seasoning. (This mixture should be flavorful even before cooking.)

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

Some people complain  
because there are thorns on  
roses;

While others thank God for  
putting roses among thorns.



## PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

**Claim God's promises** -Jesus often went to a garden to pray. Create a special place or garden outside on your property for your family to use for prayer and Bible study. Remember the promises of God are like precious flowers scattered through a garden. Jesus would have us linger over them, looking closely into them, taking in their loveliness, and appreciating the favor that God has bestowed upon us by making such rich provisions for our needs.

# A GARDEN OF TRUTH

God's original training ground for man was a garden. *"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it."* **Gen 2:15** As I have spent time in my garden and orchard this year, I have come to realize some important lessons in character formation. Just as plants have to be cultivated, we have to strive to cultivate the fruits of the Spirit.



Our raspberry patch is the most vigorous of all our orchard and garden with some of the stalks towering 7 or 8 feet into the air. Each year we cut off all the old "canes" that have produced berries and trim back the new ones to keep them to a "pickable" height. The first time I thinned them out, it almost hurt to cut all these things out, at least until the next year, when I saw what a positive difference it made in the health and productivity of the raspberries. John

**WE MUST GET TO THE ROOT OF THE SIN PROBLEM TO BE RID OF THE PROBLEM.**

the Baptist told the Pharisees and Sadducees to *"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance!"* **Matt. 3:8** A mere form of Christianity (a dead stalk) is not of the least value. It is destitute of saving power, having in it no reformative energy. In the same way that I have to prune back the raspberries, cutting off the dead stalks, we must cut off the things in our life that are dead in sin. When this is actually carried out in our life, others will

see the "fruit meet for repentance." Just as Zacchaeus not only stopped stealing, but restored what he had taken fourfold, **(Luke 19:8)** we must not only turn away from our sin, but must make restitution for past sins.

Unfortunately, raspberries aren't the only vigorous growing plants in our garden. This year weeds overtook the garden. It is amazing to me how carefully the fruiting plants must be cultivated and nurtured, yet weeds grow rampant without any tender loving care. A good gardener knows weeds must be pulled up by the roots. John said, *"And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."* **Matt. 3:10** In the same way, we must get to the root of the sin problem to be rid of the problem. Pride, selfishness, the love of money, and ultimately, separation from God is at the root of many sins.

By contrast, to avert sin, we must abide in Christ. Jesus said, *"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."* **John 15:5**

This reminds me of my vigorously growing grape. After I first bought it, it didn't produce grapes for years. So one day I decided to make stuffed grape leaves from it since it wasn't good for much else. Again I "painfully" cut off leaves-- live ones, this time. Amazingly, the next year it produced grapes. Upon obtaining another grape vine, I pruned it the first year, and sure enough it is already producing grapes. I didn't realize at the time that this is how God cleanses his people. Jesus said, *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth*

fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.” **John 15:1,2** In the Greek, the word for purging or pruning is actually “to cleanse”. Our tribulations in this world are to cleanse and help us to manifest the fruit of the Spirit. “...My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth... but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now, no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” **Heb. 12:5,6,10b,11**

Another writer explained it this way, “There is a constant tendency to be more profuse in foliage than in fruit. The strength and nourishment which goes to support the excessive foliage, is taken from the grapes. Therefore the husbandman prunes away the useless growth, that the fruit may be richer and more abundant. Thus it is that the Heavenly Husbandman deals with his vineyard. In prosperity the followers of Jesus often turn their thoughts and energies to gratifying themselves, to securing earthly treasure, to enjoying the ease and pleasure and luxury of the world, while they bring forth little fruit to the glory of God. Then the Husbandman, to promote the fruitfulness of the branches, comes with the pruning-knife of disappointment, loss, or bereavement, and cuts away the hindering growth”. **{RH, September 11, 1883}**



Paul wrote, “... but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope:” **Romans 5:3,4** Just as Jesus’ death on the cross brought hope for repentant sinners, “we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” **Romans 8:28**

Take a second look, what lessons is God teaching you in the garden?

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Or visit us at: [biblepicturepathways.com](http://biblepicturepathways.com) [swiftrunnerministries.com](http://swiftrunnerministries.com)



**GARDENING TIP:** We have had success using colloidal silver as a non-toxic fungicide on plants and fruit trees. It must be done “in due season” and may need to be reapplied. Visit [swiftrunnerministries.com](http://swiftrunnerministries.com) to learn how to build your own colloidal silver generator for garden purposes.



**Special Thanks to our Father in Heaven for miraculously supplying so many of our needs this month, and also thanks to his anonymous helper who contributed to the renewing of our off-the-grid battery bank. It has been such a blessing! Thank You!**

# REAPING A BITTER HARVEST

Lately, we have been seeing some scary headlines like **DECLINE IN BIRDS, NOT JUST BEES, LINKED TO NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES**. Hans de Kroon of Radboud University stated, “*Neonicotinoids were always regarded as selective toxins. But our results suggest that they may affect the entire ecosystem.*” [www.cbc.ca/news/technology/decline-in-birds-not-just-bees-linked-to-neonicotinoid-pesticides-1.2706542](http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/decline-in-birds-not-just-bees-linked-to-neonicotinoid-pesticides-1.2706542)

An article from PAN - Pesticide Action Network states, “*GE {genetically engineered} corn & neonicotinoid seed treatments go hand-in-hand.*” <http://www.panna.org/blog/ge-corn-sick-honey-bees-whats-link> Neonicotinoids are also often linked to **GMO (genetically modified organism)** soy and other Roundup ready crops. Also, many GMO crops, like Bt corn (corn with insecticide engineered into it), have the pesticides actually included in the plants just like neonicotinoids.

*“In the past 20 years, neonicotinoids have become one of the fastest-growing pesticide classes. In contrast to most other pesticides, which must be sprayed directly onto plants close to the time that insect extermination is desired, neonicotinoids are simply used to treat seeds before planting. As a treated plant grows, it absorbs the poison into every single one of its tissues, making the entire plant toxic. That means that even the plant’s flowers, nectar and pollen become deadly, killing pollinators that visit the crop.”* [www.naturalnews.com/046095\\_neonicotinoids\\_silent\\_spring\\_bees.html#ixzz38KkwR44S](http://www.naturalnews.com/046095_neonicotinoids_silent_spring_bees.html#ixzz38KkwR44S)

This problem again demonstrates the fact, that changing the seed affects the whole plant, which in turn affects animal life, and ultimately humans. The Bible states, “*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*” **Galatians 6:7** When we plant the seeds of death in our world or in our bodies, their natural result will be death. However, just like a physical seed may take a while to sprout, the results of the seeds of death are not always seen immediately, for a while we may think they are “selective toxins”. **I BELIEVE NATURE IS GIVING US A WARNING OF WHAT WE WILL REAP IF WE CONTINUE BREAKING GOD’S LAWS.** Ultimate health and happiness is dependent not only upon keeping God’s moral law—the Ten Commandments, but also his physical laws.

*“GMOs, or “genetically modified organisms,” are plants or animals created through the gene splicing techniques of biotechnology (also called genetic engineering, or GE). This experimental technology merges DNA from different species, creating unstable combinations of plant, animal, bacterial and viral genes that cannot occur in nature or in traditional crossbreeding. Virtually all commercial GMOs are engineered to withstand direct application of herbicide and/or to produce an insecticide.”* [Nongmoproject.org](http://Nongmoproject.org)

This is changing the “law”, the DNA that God placed in the plant. Jesus said, “*What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder [separate].*” **Mark 10:9** Man is still a long way from understanding DNA as God does. **Man experimenting with DNA and genetic modification might be compared to a small child playing with his daddy’s power tools. It spells DISASTER.** Some examples of test GMO’s include tomatoes mixed with fish, or rice with human genes.

One of God’s statutes\*\* or health laws found in **Deut. 22:9** says, “*Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled.*” Strong’s Concordance defines the word divers as the “*Dual of [the word for prison] in the original sense of separation; two heterogeneities...*” According to Webster’s Dictionary –Heterogeneous describes substances “*Of a different kind or nature; unlike or dissimilar in kind...*” In other words, this refers to mixing two substances that would not naturally mix. It is going against nature or “leaving the natural use”. **Romans 1:27**

The same word for divers is used in **Lev 19:19** “*Ye shall keep my statutes... Thou shalt not let thy cattle [animal or dumb beast] gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee.*” This reiterates, don’t mix up what God has separated. Don’t mix your horse with your cow, and don’t mix plants (linen) with animals (woolen) trying to create and interweave your own mixed up fabric/material, or concoction. Don’t think you can improve on God. Notice that God said the **fruit** of the vineyard would be defiled, this may imply that the **vineyard** itself is also defiled.” This accurately describes the 2 main problems with GMOs.

**1. The defiled fruit has Health Hazards.** Studies have found that Genetically Engineered Foods trigger adverse immune system responses and the Bt Toxin has even been found in blood of women and fetuses who were tested. Dr. Mercola’s footnoted article quotes, “*Researchers found distinct changes to the intestines of animals fed GMOs compared to those fed non-GMOs. This confirms other studies done by US researchers. Significant changes occurred in the digestive systems of the test animals’ major*



organs including the liver, kidneys, pancreas, genitals and more." Another study found, "This not only may relate to a rise in obesity, but to increases in many modern diseases. These diseases include diabetes, digestive disorders, inflammatory bowel disease, colitis, autism spectrum disorders (ASD) (ADD), autoimmune diseases, sexual dysfunction, sterility, asthma, COPD and many more." <http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/07/genetically-engineered-foods-hazards.aspx>

**2. Super weeds are created.** God's Word implies that the vineyard also would be defiled. Although the intent was the opposite, GMO Roundup ready crops have actually created resistant weeds requiring MORE PESTICIDES.

The New York Times published an article stating, "Just as the heavy use of antibiotics contributed to the rise of drug-resistant supergerms, American farmers' near-ubiquitous use of the weedkiller Roundup has led to the rapid growth of tenacious new superweeds." [www.nytimes.com/2010/05/04/business/energy-environment/04weed.html?pagewanted=all](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/04/business/energy-environment/04weed.html?pagewanted=all)

It really all boils down to, "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God... And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way..." **Deut. 11:26-28** Before you decide what to put on your plate next time, think with the reasoning of Paul, **What doth nature itself teach? (1 Cor.11:14)**

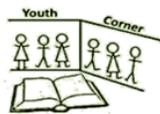
For more information on avoiding GMOs visit [nongmoproject.org](http://nongmoproject.org) or view our story on Leukemia lessons at [swifrunnerministries.com](http://swifrunnerministries.com)

\*\*Many of the statutes that were not "a shadow of things to come" (Col. 2:17) are actually health laws, and are profitable even today.



## Little Runner Health Tip

Hip-hop the Bunny Rabbit likes food fresh from the garden. Food-- fresh from the garden, like carrots and lettuce, are good for boys and girls to eat too.



## The Contractor's New House

**"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."—Galations 6:7**

"Thy reward shall return upon thine own head" is a true saying.

(Obadiah 1:15)

A wealthy man before leaving on an extended vacation said to a contractor, "While I am away, I want you to build me a fine new home according to these plans. Be sure you work with extreme care, and use the best of everything. Tell me the cost as soon as you have it and I'll send you a check." During the process of construction the contractor discovered many opportunities to substitute inferior materials; he put in his own pocket the money he saved. His employer would never know the difference, and he himself would profit. But he soon regretted his dishonesty, for the wealthy man upon his return inspected the finished home and said: "You have built it exactly as I wanted it, and I'm sure that you used the best of everything in its construction. Now, in appreciation for your long years of service to me, I am giving you this new home for your very own. Here's the deed!"



Do you sometimes think you can cheat and get by with it? Do you think that not everything God's law says is important for you to follow? The choices you make today can affect you for eternity. Build on the Rock, Jesus Christ, and don't substitute a counterfeit service for true service to God.

## STUDY TO SHOW THYSELF APPROVED

Every Gardener knows that planting, cultivation and harvesting must be done in due season. What lessons does the Bible teach "in due season"?

1. In **Lev. 26:3,4** God promises to give rain in due season "If ye walk in my \_\_\_\_\_, and keep my \_\_\_\_\_, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.
2. In **Prov. 15:23**, what does God say is good when it is in due season? "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a \_\_\_\_\_ in due season, how good is it!"
3. **Ecc. 10:17** reveals that there is a blessing when we do what in due season? "Blessed art thou, O land, when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes \_\_\_\_\_ in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness!"
4. In **Matt. 24:45.46** how does Jesus describe the servant who gives out spiritual food and nourishment to God's household in due season? "Who then is a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing."
5. **Galatians 6:9** tells us not to be \_\_\_\_\_ if we want to reap the reward in due season? "And let us not be \_\_\_\_\_: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Answers: 1. statutes, commandments 2. word spoken 3. eat 4. faithful, wise 5. weary in well doing

## Kid's Corner

Written by: D. Roberts age 11

Illustrated by: D. Roberts age 9



Christian watered his flowers regularly and waited patiently for them to bloom. When they bloomed, they were a beautiful purple color. He enjoyed smelling the flowers that Jesus made.



Carnal forgot to water his flowers. The leaves all died. Instead of being patient and waiting for Jesus to make his flowers bloom, he tried to pry open the flowers. It made them all fall apart. He was very disappointed.

## God's Amazing Creatures



Most of the time we think of ladybugs as being red with a black head and spots, but they can also be yellow or orange and have black stripes. Ladybugs are also called Ladybirds and lady beetles. They live in meadows, crop fields, gardens and marshes. They also like to gather on our solar panels.

Ladybugs are good for your garden. They eat aphids and other harmful insects. Just like ladybugs get rid of bad things in our gardens, Jesus will help us to get rid of bad things, like sin, in our lives. He will help us to be kind and obey. Won't you ask him to help you today?