

# Galatians 6:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

## Analysis

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**Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.** Paul states universal spiritual law. "Be not deceived" (mē planasthe, μὴ πλανᾷσθε)—don't be led astray, don't wander from truth. Present imperative: stop being deceived. "God is not mocked" (theos ou mukhtērizetai, θεὸς οὐ μυκτηρίζεται)—God is not sneered at, not treated with contempt, not trifled with. Mukhtērizō literally means to turn up the nose at, sneer. People may mock God's law of sowing and reaping, but reality doesn't change.

"For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (ho gar ean speirē anthrōpos, touto kai therisei, ὃ γὰρ ἐὰν σπείρῃ ἄνθρωπος, τοῦτο καὶ θερίσει)—whatever anyone sows, this he'll also reap. Agricultural metaphor: seed determines crop. Sow corn, reap corn; sow weeds, reap weeds. Spiritually: sow to flesh, reap corruption; sow to Spirit, reap eternal life (verse 8). This law operates morally and spiritually. Actions have consequences. You can't sow sin and reap righteousness, or sow selfishness and reap blessing. God's moral order is fixed; mocking it doesn't change it.

## Historical Context

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The sowing/reaping principle appears throughout Scripture (Job 4:8, Proverbs 22:8, Hosea 8:7, 2 Corinthians 9:6). Jesus used agricultural parables constantly (Matthew 13). Ancient audiences understood: farmers can't cheat harvest—seed determines crop. Paul applies this to Christian life: moral/spiritual sowing

determines eschatological harvest. This warns both against sin's consequences (don't deceive yourself that you can sin without reaping) and encourages righteousness (your faithful sowing will yield harvest). God's justice ensures alignment between sowing and reaping; His timing may delay but not prevent harvest.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. What are you currently sowing in your life—to flesh or to Spirit—and what harvest should you expect?
2. How does recognizing that 'God is not mocked' affect your choices when you're tempted to think you can avoid consequences?
3. In what areas are you deceiving yourself that you can sow one thing but reap something different?

## Interlinear Text

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|               |              |             |             |              |       |            |                   |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------|------------|-------------------|
| Μὴ            | πλανᾷσθε     | θεὸς        | οὐ          | μυκτηρίζεται | ὃ     | γὰρ        | ἐὰν               |
| <b>not</b>    | <b>Be</b>    | <b>God</b>  | <b>not</b>  | <b>is</b>    | G3739 | <b>for</b> | <b>whatsoever</b> |
| G3361         | G4105        | G2316       | G3756       | G3456        |       | G1063      | G1437             |
| σπείρη        | ἄνθρωπος     | τοῦτο       | καὶ         | θερίσει·     |       |            |                   |
| <b>soweth</b> | <b>a man</b> | <b>that</b> | <b>also</b> | <b>reap</b>  |       |            |                   |
| G4687         | G444         | G5124       | G2532       | G2325        |       |            |                   |

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 9:6** (Parallel theme): But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

**Hosea 10:12** (Parallel theme): Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

**Job 4:8** (Parallel theme): Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.

**1 Corinthians 15:33** (Parallel theme): Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

**Proverbs 11:18** (Parallel theme): The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.

**Proverbs 1:31** (Parallel theme): Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

**Ephesians 5:6** (References God): Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

**Proverbs 6:14** (Parallel theme): Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord.

**1 Corinthians 6:9** (References God): Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

**Job 15:31** (Parallel theme): Let not him that is deceived trust in vanity: for vanity shall be his recompence.