# The Principles of Harvest Apply to Finances

"<sup>6</sup>The point is this: whoever sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully" (2 Cor. 9:6).

"<sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived—God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, that he also shall reap. <sup>8</sup>For the one who sows in the flesh will reap corruption from the flesh. But the one who sows in the Ruach will reap from the Ruach eternal life" (Gal. 6:7-8).

The same principles that *Adonai* established to govern agriculture, and specifically the fruit bearing of a farmer's crops, He also applies to spiritual harvest. So, if we *sow* financially into His Kingdom, we will also *reap bountifully* from His Kingdom. The enemy of *Adonai* (Satan) does not really want us to know these things. But the *wisdom from above* when appropriated and used, will yield a crop regardless of the economy and circumstances. As one famous speaker said: *there is no recession in heaven. Yeshua* also illustrated the proper attitude toward finances in many situations in the *Newer Covenant*. What cause and effect sequences did *Adonai* intend for us to pay attention to when it comes to finances? Here is a list: (1) We reap *what* we sow, (2) We reap *where* we sow, (3) We reap *in proportion* to what we sow, (4) We reap *in another season* than we sow.

# Some Biblical Financial Cause-and-Effect Sequences

# 1. **Assets Devoured** $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is No Tithing

"10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse. Then there will be food in My House. Now test Me in this" – says Adonai-Tzva'ot – "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out blessing for you, until no one is without enough. "I will rebuke the devouring pest for you, so it will not destroy the fruit of your land, nor will your vine be barren in the field," Adonai-Tzva'ot says" (Malachi 3:10-11).

# 2. Riches to Strangers $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is Immorality

"8Keep your path far from her and do not go near the door of her house – 9lest you give your strength to others and your years to one who is cruel; <sup>10</sup> lest strangers feast on your strength, your labors go to a foreigner's house" (Proverbs 5:8-10).

#### 3. **Profit Loss** $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is Dishonor of Parents

<sup>2</sup>Honor your father and mother" (which is the first commandment with a promise),<sup>3</sup>"so that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth" (Ephesians 6:2-3).

#### 4. **Deterioration** ⇔ When there is Laziness

"<sup>30</sup>I passed by the field of the slacker, by the vineyard of one lacking judgment. <sup>31</sup>Surprisingly, it was all overgrown with thorns, the ground was covered with weeds, and its stone wall was broken down" (Prov. 24:30-31).

#### 5. Sorrows & Grief $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is Desire to be Rich

"10 For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil—some, longing for it, have gone astray from the faith and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (1 Timothy 6:10).

#### 6. Sudden Poverty $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is Stinginess & Greediness

"22 A stingy man chases after riches, but does not know that poverty will overtake him" (Proverbs 28:22).

#### 7. **Bondage** $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is Borrowing

"<sup>7</sup>The rich rule over the poor, the borrower is a slave to the lender" (Proverbs 22:7). The Hebrew word for interest means to be bitten by a viper snake!

# 8. **Business Losses** $\Leftrightarrow$ When there are Cosigning or Unscriptural Partnerships

"<sup>1</sup>My son, if you have become a cosigner for your neighbor, if you have shaken hands in pledge with a stranger, <sup>2</sup>if you are trapped by your own words, ensnared by the words of your mouth..." (Prov. 6:1-5).

# 9. **Miseries** ⇔ When there are **Unfair Wages**

"¹Come now, you rich, weep and wail over the miseries that are coming upon you. ²Your riches have rotted and your clothes have become moth-eaten. ³Your gold and your silver have rusted and their rust will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have stored up treasure in the last days. ⁴Behold, the wages of the workers who mowed your fields—which you kept back by fraud—are crying out against you. And the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of Hosts" (James 5:1-4).

### 10. **Thefts** ⇔ When there is Extravagance

"19Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal" (Matthew 6:19).

# 11. Adonai's Wrath $\Leftrightarrow$ When there is Cheating Widows or their Sons

<sup>10</sup>Do not move an ancient boundary stone, or encroach on fields of the fatherless, <sup>11</sup>for their redeemer is strong. He will plead their case against you" (Proverbs 23:10-11).

# 12. **Begging Food** ⇔ When there is a Slacker

"<sup>4</sup>A slacker will not plow in season, so at harvest he looks but finds nothing...<sup>13</sup>Do not love sleep, lest you become poor. Open your eyes, and you will be satisfied with food" (Prov. 20:4, 13).

## 13. **Family Trouble** ⇔ When there is **Greed**

"27One greedy for gain troubles his household, but whoever hates bribes will live" (Prov. 15:27)

### 14. **No Job** ⇔ When there is Lack of Diligence

"29Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings..." (Proverbs 22:29).

### 15. **Poverty** ⇔ When there is Pride and No Fear of God

"<sup>4</sup>The reward of humility and fear of Adonai is riches, honor and life" (Prov. 22:4).

#### 16. **Labor in Vain** ⇔ When there is Broken Vows

"4When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it; for He takes no delight in fools...Why should God be angry on account of your voice and destroy the work of your hands?" (Eccl. 5:4-6).

#### 17. Unanswered Prayers⇔ When there is No Understanding

"Husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered" (1 Peter 3:7).

#### 18. Public Ridicule $\Leftrightarrow$ When there are Poor Plans

"<sup>28</sup>For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>"Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him" (Luke 14:28-29).

#### 19. **No Increase** ⇔ When there is **Stinginess**

"...you shall not harden your heart...and your eye is hostile toward your poor brother, and you give him nothing; ...You shall generously give to him, and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing Adonai your God will bless you in all your work and in all your undertakings" (Deut. 15:7-10)

Financial responsibility includes six learnable principles: (1) The VALUE of money, (2) The DANGER of money, (3) The SAVING of money, (4) The GIVING of money, (5) The WORKING for money, and (7) The PRAYING for money. Let us strive to sow so we can reap according to *Adonai*.

Shabbat Shalom!