

The Extraordinary Life

"I have come that they may have life,
and that they may have it more abundantly"
John 10:10

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what goes around...

I stopped at the Speedway gas station to grab my usual morning coffee. I carried the full hot cup up to my usual cashier, Candice, to pay, and went to pull my wallet out, and... my wallet was missing. I checked all the suspect pockets, and decided I had left my wallet at home.

I looked longingly at my hot coffee sitting there and then looked sheepishly at Candice. "I forgot my wallet," I said. "I think I've got enough change in the car," I added hopefully.

I left my coffee sitting there and ran out to the car to start digging for those parking meter quarters I thought might still be there. I was not having any success when up to my car door came a woman wearing a mask, who had been behind me in the line inside, and she handed me my coffee. "Here, don't worry about it, I paid for it," she told me. "Well, thank you," I sputtered my appreciation.

Because of the mask, I couldn't really identify my coffee benefactor, but on my next stop in Speedway, I asked Candice whether she knew the woman and she did. So I asked Candice to point her out to me, the next time we both were in the store.

A week or two later, as I walked into Speedway for my morning coffee, Candice walked by me on her way to take care of some outside work. She paused to tell me that the helpful woman was also in the store. "Where?" I asked. She carefully pointed her out. I quickly got my coffee and got

up to the cashier, while the woman still stood in another line with a couple of fountain drinks. I paid for her drinks, and as I headed out the door, I spoke to her and said, "Don't worry about that. I have already paid for your drinks." Her mouth flew open in surprise as she recognized me and she smiled real big and said loudly, "Well, that's

how that's supposed to work!"



She's right. "What goes around, comes around" is true. This law of cause and effect is described in Hinduism and Buddhism as "karma". In the Bible, we are told: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." Galatians

6:7. But, there are important differences between the "karma" of Buddhism and the principle of reaping and sowing.

In Buddhism, karma is an impersonal universal law of cause and effect. Karma comes from intentions to act, whether good or bad, the effects of which ripen over many lifespans through reincarnation. For one to liberate himself from this cycle of rebirth, they must refrain from both "good" and "bad" deeds in order to attain the state of bliss called "nirvana".

In Christianity, the law of reaping what you sow, is not an impersonal cause and effect, like the law of gravity. This law comes from the personal divine Lawgiver. This Lawgiver is also our Judge who warns us that under His principle of justice, our deeds in life have consequences.

Our deeds are the seeds we sow. God decreed every kind of plant seed produces a plant that “yields fruit according to its kind.” Genesis 1:29, 11-12. For example, to produce peace in our lives, we must sow peace. “Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.” James 3:18. The kind of deeds we do will produce the same kind of consequences from God in our lives. When our deeds or seeds are good, God will give us good in return. This is why the prophet Hosea urges us to: “Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.” Hosea 10:12.

When our deeds are evil, God will insure we will receive evil. “You have plowed wickedness; You have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, Because you trusted in your own way, In the multitude of your mighty men.” Hosea 10:13. Eliphaz said: “Even as I have seen, Those who plow iniquity And sow trouble reap the same. By the blast of God they perish, And by the breath of His anger they are consumed.” Job 4:8-9.

How you treat others matters, for that is how you will be treated. God promises you, what goes around, comes around. The wise man Solomon described how God’s law works in our lives: “The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh. The wicked man does deceptive work, But he who sows righteousness will have a sure reward. As righteousness leads to life, So he who pursues evil pursues

Upcoming Messages

Come and be our guest at the Connersville church of Christ. You and your family will be welcome to join with us in worship to God and to hear these messages:



• **Praying About Your Problems**
.....Next Sunday

**Wayne & Chris are out of town.
Scott McCarty will be speaking Today!**

it to his own death.” Proverbs 11:17-19.

While the seeds you sow may seem small, the harvest you reap will be far greater. “They sow the wind, And reap the whirlwind. The stalk has no bud; It shall never produce meal. If it should produce, Aliens would swallow it up.” Hosea 8:7.

Do not make the mistake of thinking that the small seeds you sow, the little acts of kindness or of rudeness or discourteousness, are insignificant. (1 Cor. 13:4-5). Jesus promised even the smallest seeds of kindness, as giving “only a cup of water to drink” can accumulate and grow and the sower “shall by no means lose his reward.” Matthew 10:42. ✕

<p align="center">Connersville church of Christ meets at Waterloo & Erie Connersville, Indiana</p> <p align="center">Minister Wayne Greeson (765) 265-4410</p> <p align="center">connersvillechurch.com</p>	<p>Practical Christianity: Turn Wanderers Back to Truth</p> <p>James tells us that Christians can “wander from the truth”. James 5:19. Those who do so, are “sinner(s)”, in “error” and “a multitude of sins” and their soul is in spiritual “death”. 5:20. This is a warning to every Christian to receive God’s Word of truth, love the truth, obey the truth, walk in the truth, and practice the truth. 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Thess. 2:10; 1 Pet. 1:22; 3 Jn. 3-4; 1 Jn. 1:6. When one disobeys and wanders from the truth, God will render to them “indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish.” Romans 2:8-9. We avoid wandering from the truth by “rightly dividing the word of truth ... (and) shun(ing) profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. And... spread like cancer. ... (and) overthrow the faith of some.” 2 Timothy 2:15-18.</p> <p>But in this danger is also a duty for every Christian. We should seek out those who wander from the truth and try to turn them back to the truth. Paul says we are to seek to “restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.” When we do this we: “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:1-2. James says: “he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20. Then we can rejoice together with the Lord and the angels of heaven. Luke 15:6-7,10,32.</p>	<p align="center">Come Join Us!</p> <p align="center">Worship Sunday Morning 10 am Sunday Evening 5 pm</p> <p>Bible Classes for all ages Sunday Morning 9 am Wednesday 7 pm</p> <p align="center">on facebook.com @ConnersvilleChurchofChrist</p> <p align="center">Home Bible studies on request</p> <p align="center">waynegr@gmail.com</p>
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