

This morning I would like to speak to you about two important harvests.

Since most of us are not farmers this may seem quite removed from your lives, yet it is a matter of vital significance for each person here. Gal. 6:7-8 reads "Do not be deceived. God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature from that nature will reap destruction. The one who sows to please the spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

The second sentence in this section is in NIV, "A man reaps what he sows." I was on a number of committees of the NIV, discussing with each committee usually had seven or nine people on it and everything was decided by majority vote. It was not usually difficult to determine what the Greek meant. The difficulty was to get an English sentence that would give the same emphasis and meaning. Here the NIV has got the exact meaning exactly of the original = a man reaps what he sows - but it does not have the emphasis of the original. The KJV is much clearer but it is archaic English. How often have I heard these words repeated in Sunday School.

"Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." The sowing really ought to come first in it as it does in the Greek. It has an emphasis and an impact that the NIV here does not have with the rendering "a man reaps what he sows."

We used to find that it was quite easy to know what the original meant in most cases. To put it into clear English was usually not a difficult task. To put it into clear English that also carried something of the emphasis of the original was a much harder task. Then to put it into clear English that would carry something of the emphasis of the original and also would have the beautiful swing to it that is so characteristic of the KJV would be a still more difficult task. The NIV is not as good a translation as the KJV, not nearly as beautiful, but you cannot expect it to be because English is not nearly as beautiful a language now as it was 400 years ago. On the whole I think the NIV has done a very good job, but in this case I wish they had said: "Whatever a man sows, that's what he will reap." Perhaps even better that is what he is going to reap

Handwritten notes and corrections in the left margin and right side of the page, including circled numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Handwritten note in a box on the right side of the page: "KJV is much clearer"