

Spiritual Edification And The True Reaper

The Holy Spirit has led me to go to the book of John chapter 4 verse 28 through 42 so let's dive right in

John 4:28-42

- 28. Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people,**
- 29. "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?"**
- 30. They left the town and made their way to him.**
- 31. In the meantime the disciples kept urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."**
- 32. But he said, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."**
- 33. The disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?"**
- 34. "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work," Jesus told them.**
- 35. "Don't you say, 'There are still four more months, and then comes the harvest'? Listen to what I'm telling you: Open your eyes and look at the fields, because they are ready for harvest.**
- 36. The reaper is already receiving pay and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together.**
- 37. or in this case the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.'**
- 38. I sent you to reap what you didn't labor for; others have labored, and you have benefited from their labor."**
- 39. Now many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of what the woman said when she testified, "He told me everything I ever did."**

40. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.

41. Many more believed because of what he said.

42. And they told the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, since we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world."

Now in versus 28 and 29 He is using the woman as an example of christian believers going out into the world and delivering the "Good News". In verse 30 the believers that came are new christians and are the ones seeking answers for themselves. In verse 31 the disciples are referring to actual food. That with our senses we can see, touch, taste, and smell. But in verse 32 Jesus Christ is referring to spiritual food. In verse 33 the disciples were confused on what Jesus Christ was saying. They literally thought someone had brought him something to eat while they were in town. In verse 34 he reveals to them what he was talking about. "Spiritual food" and that is doing the will of the father and what he has you to do in life. That is what spiritual food is. And to be spiritually edified is how you feel after doing what you're called to do. In scripture here are some examples of spiritual food.

Matthew 4:4

4. He answered, "It is written: Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."

Deuteronomy 8:3

3. He humbled you by letting you go hungry; then he gave you manna to eat, which you and your ancestors had not known, so that you might learn that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord

Now in verse 35 Jesus is telling us to open our eyes and examine the field. To realize the harvest is ready. He is letting us Christians know the field is ready. For us to get out there in the world and win souls. And that the Harvest is souls and the world is the field. In verse 36 the reaper is not death what modern day man has made it out to be. But King Jesus Christ himself, and the sower is you and me the followers of Christ. Any person that is out there testifying about him and his love. And what he did on the cross willingly for you and me. And that on the third day he rose from the grave. Verse 37 states that one sows and the other reaps. What benefit do we gain by being the reaper? Nothing I tell you we are not the reapers that modern day christianity has led us to believe. Jesus Christ is He is the one we are doing this for anyways and his Kingdom.

Sowing is winning the lost, professing the good news, true worship as well. This is all spiritual food. These are all different ways of doing what the Lord has called us to do. To be spiritually edified is how you feel after you have done this is the reward [the reap] . The reaper is Jesus Christ; he is the one receiving the reward of our fruits and labors of sowing. Verse 38 means there are people in the world that reject teaching from others and God [Jesus Christ] has sent you to reach them. The foundation has already been laid by hearing the word. But he is using you to reach them as it was originally intended. The foundation is the other person's labor to reach the lost that was unsuccessful. Now verse 39 Is an example of christians today when we testify to others about Christ and what he has done in our lives. This is our testimonies that we tell one another what God has done in our own lives and why we follow him. Verse 40 is the unbelievers that choose to follow Christ after hearing testimonies of believers. Verse 41 is an example of the Holy Spirit teaching us after we have accepted him into our lives as our Lord. Verse 42 is an example of the New born Christians growing and maturing in faith. That its not our words they follow but God's word. And that Jesus Christ came to be the savior of this world and he is.