

the first chance 34 - 97 - 118  
experience page 167

The Language Of The New Year  
Is Another Chance.

P.S. 103.

10.

U.T. John 3:14-21

There is a truth grasping peoples' minds to-day as perhaps no other truth is..and that is "Be sure that your sins will find you out." That is to say a man that sins must reap the consequences.

This is taught by the moralist, the writer of fiction, and by the novelist. They use such expressions as:

- a. "Dog his steps"
- b. "Climb after him to drag him down."
- c. "Haunt him like assassins."

To put this truth in other words they say that a man must pay the uttermost farthing and quote

1. "The soul that sinneth it shall die."
2. "They sow to the wind and shall reap the whirlwind."
3. The wages of sin is death."
4. "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."
5. "Sin when it is finished bringeth forth death."

Examples: Esau, Jacob, King Saul, David, and Judas,

These verses carried out to the letter would mean that no sinner would ever have another chance. They express a great truth but taken in the light of the Bible it is a conditional truth.

Those that teach this as unconditional truth forget that there is in the world and over the world a GREAT will, a TENDER Heart, and an INFINITE POWER. The Psalmist seeming to see this said, "He hath not dealt with us after our sins".

Illustration: Bug in the pail  
Boy in the sea.

Let us look at this truth along the broad lines in which God deals with us:

1. Providence... Take the matter of sowing. Now as to a man reaping what he sows we must confess that it all depends on ~~what~~ what happens between the sowing and the reaping and this is where providence comes in.

a. Sow peas... only way to reap what you sow is to grabble the peas. Drouth may come in and prevent a crop.

b. We reap where we do not sow... fir trees in Scotland. So between a mans sin and the consequences of that sin it is possible for providence to come in and defeat the supreme penalty.

Illustration: Joseph's brethren acted murder and a lie. If they had reaped what they sowed theirs would have been slavery and death but they stood before Joseph kept by his bounty and pardoned by his grace.

2. LAW.... Break a law and we must pay.. But God uses his higher law of mercy to cancel the lower law of justice... he counter works the law of retribution by the law of repair.

Laws of healing, cleansing, and renewal cancel wrong, repair loss, and restore to purity.... and make sure the teaching of another chance.... Illustration... Man in broken health Roman seed.... Thou redeemest my life from destruction.

3. GRACE... God indeed deals in mercy in providence and law but there is an inner world where sin hurts worse. Here we have conscience and need something more than providence or law touching new forces. We need the cleansing of a guilty conscience. This comes by the CROSS. So we may be steeped in sin and read "The soul that sinneth it shall die but thank God we may also read, "Him that cometh to me I will in nowise cast out." So the CROSS shines down into the deepest sin to light a way of sinners to another chance and millions today may say with the

Psalmist, "He hath not dealt w th us after  
our sins nor rewarded us according to our in-  
iquities."

