

rather than sitting back, farmers know they must look ahead to prepare for the next year if they want another harvest.

Just like the farmers, we must look ahead and prepare for the future. We must get right with God before it is too late. He is our Maker, and though we have ignored Him and turned away from Him, He still loves us. He shows it every year by providing for us.

But His greatest gift was sending His Son to earth to save us. Jesus lived the life we should have all lived, but then died paying the penalty for all of our sin. All our wrong was laid on Jesus as He suffered on the cross. Three days later, Jesus conquered death, rising from the grave. Jesus is alive.

Each of us need to turn from our own way and ask Jesus to become our Lord and Saviour. We need to ask Him to forgive us for our sin and give us new life in him. Nothing could be more important, for what we do with Jesus determines our eternal home of either heaven or hell.

The hymn 'Great is Thy faithfulness' says it well:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

This harvest time, will you thank God for His goodness, trust Jesus to forgive you, and turn to Him to be your Lord and Saviour? God, by His Spirit, will live in you, making you His forever.



1. Genesis 8:22; 2. Psalm 24:1; 3. Mark 4:26-29



To find out more about Jesus Christ please visit: **tell-me-more.org** or fill out the form below:

Please send me a free copy of a Gospel from the Bible.



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AROUND

There's nothing quite like a traditional church Harvest Festival. The aroma and the atmosphere exude gratitude. It is good and proper to recognise that we have plenty and that, once again, God's promise from early on in the Bible has been kept:

> 'While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.'

HARVEST IS A TIME OF THANKS

Months ago, fields were prepared and seed was sown. Now the harvest has been gathered in and we again wonder at the miracle of it all. Behind the hard work of the farmers stands the Creator God who gives life to each seed:

We plough the fields and scatter The good seed on the land; But it is fed and watered By God's almighty hand.

He sends the snow in winter; The warmth to swell the grain; The breezes and the sunshine And soft refreshing rain.

All good gifts around us Are sent from Heaven above; Then thank the Lord, oh, thank the Lord For all His love.

At harvest we pause to remember that 'The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness.'²



It brings to mind a cartoon of two farmers looking at the countryside. One turns to the other and says, 'I like the Artist's use of green in the bottom left-hand corner!'

Whether living in the city far from fields, or in the countryside surrounded by farms, we are all grateful that food has been provided for another year.

It is a good thing to give thanks for the abundance we have.

HARVEST IS A TIME TO TRUST

It is with a sense of trust that farmers plough the ground and sow their seed. Then they wait. Eventually, the weather is just right for harvest and quickly the crop is gathered in.

Jesus used this analogy to illustrate God's work in people's lives when He said:

'The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.³

The good news of Jesus is like seed being planted in your mind and heart. Sometimes seeds grow quickly, and at other times the process is slow, but as soon as you realise your personal need to ask for forgiveness and new life in Jesus, the time has come for harvest! God has caused His seed to grow, and you mustn't delay. The moment you turn to Jesus, you become a citizen of the kingdom of God – forgiven and saved to have life with God forever.

HARVEST IS A TIME FOR TURNING

Once in a while it is good to stop, reevaluate and start again. Every autumn,