



Edward
Church

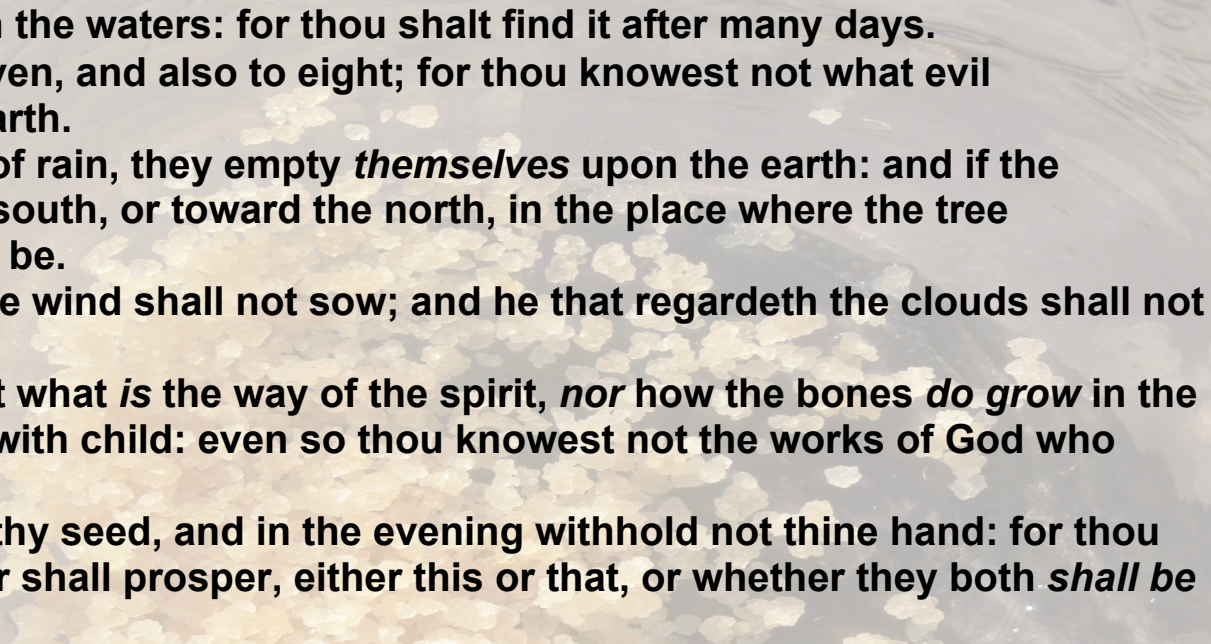
Sept 27,
2015

**The Cycle of Blessing
No Deposit No Return
Eccl 11:1-6**

Part

1

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6 (KJV)

- 1** Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.
 - 2** Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.
 - 3** If the clouds be full of rain, they empty *themselves* upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be.
 - 4** He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.
 - 5** As thou knowest not what *is* the way of the spirit, *nor* how the bones *do grow* in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.
 - 6** In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both *shall be* alike good.
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Ecclesiastes 11:1-6 (NLT)

- 1 Send your grain across the seas, and in time, profits will flow back to you.**
- 2 But divide your investments among many places, for you do not know what risks might lie ahead.**
- 3 When clouds are heavy, the rains come down. Whether a tree falls north or south, it stays where it falls.**
- 4 Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest.**
- 5 Just as you cannot understand the path of the wind or the mystery of a tiny baby growing in its mother's womb, so you cannot understand the activity of God, who does all things.**
- 6 Plant your seed in the morning and keep busy all afternoon, for you don't know if profit will come from one activity or another—or maybe both.**

R. U. T.

- R- *“Restricted”*
- U- *“Useless”*
- T- *“Trench”*

Symptoms of a RUT

- Lack of...
 - Movement
 - Interest
 - Victory



The Way Out of a RUT is to Get Into the CYCLE

There's a sign along the Alaskan Highway that reads,

"Choose your rut carefully, you'll be in it for the next 200 miles"



Cycles

God is a God of Cycles

- Each Cycle is
 - Principle Driven
 - Life Accurate
 - Leak Proof
 - Impartial



Solomon was Heavily Involved in the Shipping Industry

- **He was Very Successful and It Brought Him Great Profit**

1 Kings 10:22-23 (AMP)

²² For the king had a fleet of ships of Tarshish at sea with the fleet of Hiram. Once every three years the fleet of ships of Tarshish came bringing gold, silver, ivory, apes, and peacocks. ²³ So King Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom (skill)

•Solomon is Not Focused on Profits, but the Simple Truth that If one is to Reap he Must First Cast His Bread Upon The Water

•We will Never Achieve Spiritual Maturity or Reap a Harvest for the Lord

...if we are Not Participating in the Work

•Many Today are Equipped for Success, but they Lack the Motivation and Refuse to Participate BUT There is Much Work to Do

If You Don't Send Anything Out... ...You Can't Expect Anything To Come In (1)

The Dare

Here is One of God's Cycles

- **Sowing and Reaping**

Galatians 6:7-9 (NASB77)

⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹ And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary

Deals with the Act of Sowing

If You Don't Send Anything Out... ...You Can't Expect Anything To Come In (1)

⁶ *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those **who diligently seek Him.** Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)*

God Doesn't Reward...

- **Idleness**
- **Playing It Safe**

You Have to...

- **Step Out**
- **Cast Something**

God Allows You to Be Involved in the Process (Cycles) of Life

GIVING SHAPES OUR CHARACTER AND MAKES US LIKE OUR

FATHER

John 3:16, “for God so Loved that He Gave...”

He Gave...

- What We Needed *“His Son”*
- When We Needed *“Fullness of Time”*
- How We Needed *“Word became flesh...”*

We Give Our...

- Time
- Talent
- Treasure

Our Life Must be tied to a Greater Purpose

☐ The Dare

"cast your bread upon the waters"

☐ The Danger- In Solomon's Day,

- **Many Ships Wrecked**
- **Pirates frequented the seas. Cargo was stolen**
- **Ship captains were often dishonest**
- **There certainly weren't any insurance policies to cover losses**
- **Merchants would often take a total loss**

☐ The Delay

- **There Was a Long Wait...**

The Seven Laws of the Harvest

- We Reap Only What Has Been Sown
- We Reap the Same In Kind As We Sow
- We Reap in a Different Season than We Sow
- We Reap More Than We Sow
- We Reap In Proportion to What We Sow
- We Reap the Full Harvest Of the Good Only if We Persevere
- We Can't do Anything About Last Year's Harvest...
...But We Can About This Year's



**Cast Your Bread Upon the
Water**

**...it WILL come back to
You!!!**

