

4 Lessons Illustrated by Plant Life  
(Genesis 1:9-13)

Introduction:

1. Although spring has not officially arrived, the things occurring in nature help us to appreciate what God did on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day.
  - a. First, He caused the waters to gather into Seas and the dry land to appear.
  - b. Next, He created plant life.
  - c. As God created plant life, He put several natural laws into effect.
    - 1) Plants were given the ability to bear fruit and produce seed.
    - 2) The seed from each plant would produce a plant after its own kind.
2. In the Bible, plants and the natural laws relating to plants are used to illustrate a number of valuable spiritual lessons.
3. Today, we are considering 4 of these important lessons.

Discussion:

- I. (Matthew 6:28-29) FROM THE LILIES OF THE FIELD WE LEARN NOT TO BE ANXIOUS OVER THINGS SUCH AS CLOTHING
  - A. (Matthew 6:25a) Jesus was teaching His followers not to be anxious over the necessities of life: food, drink, and clothing.
  - B. (vs.26) As Jesus taught His followers not to be anxious over food He mentioned the birds of the air.
  - C. As Jesus taught His followers not to be anxious about clothing in vs.28-29, He mentioned the lilies of the field.
    1. Lilies do not toil or spin.
    2. However, God causes them to be clothed in a beautiful way.
  - D. Jesus continued with this subject in vs.30-33.
  - E. Rather than be anxious over anything, let us follow the instructions given in Philippians 4:6-7.
- II. FROM A FIG TREE WE LEARN ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF BEARING FRUIT
  - A. (Matthew 21:18-20) Jesus cursed a fig tree because it did not produce any fruit.
  - B. (John 15:1-8) Jesus emphasized the necessity of bearing fruit.
- III. (Galatians 6:7-8) THE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING RELATES TO OUR ETERNAL DESTINY
  - A. In this life we can choose to sow to the flesh.
    1. Sowing to the flesh will result in *"the works of the flesh"* (Galatians 5:19-21).
    2. Those who do such things will not reap the kingdom of heaven.
  - B. In this life we can choose to sow to the Spirit.
    1. Sowing to the Spirit will result in *"the fruit of the Spirit"* (Galatians 5:22-23).
    2. Those who bear this kind of fruit will reap everlasting life.
- IV. (1 Corinthians 3:6) PLANTING AND WATERING RELATE TO EVANGELISM
  - A. Christians are responsible for planting and watering *"the seed"* [the Word -- Luke 8:11].
  - B. When we plant and water the seed, God will give *"the increase."*

Conclusion:

1. These are 4 great lessons taught in the Bible with reference to plants and the natural laws relating to plants.
2. A final point is made in 1 Peter 1:22-25 about being born again by God's Word.