

On the Third Day God Created Plants
(Genesis 1:9-13)

Introduction:

1. In Genesis 1 we read about the 6 days of Creation.
2. According to vs.9-13, "on the third day God created plants."
3. Before God created plants, He gathered the waters into Seas, and He made the dry land to appear [Earth].
4. As God created plants, He put several natural laws into effect.
 - a. Plants were given the ability to bear fruit and produce seed.
 - b. The seed from each plant would produce a plant after its own kind.
5. In the Bible, plants and the natural laws relating to plants are used to teach a number of valuable spiritual lessons.
6. Today, we are considering 4 of these important lessons.

Discussion:

- I. (Matthew 6:28-29) JESUS USED THE LILIES OF THE FIELD TO ILLUSTRATE WHY WE SHOULD NOT 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. JESUS USED A FIG TREE TO ILLUSTRATE 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) OUR ETERNAL DESTINY WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING
 - 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. PLANTING AND WATERING RELATE TO EVANGELISM (1 Corinthians 3:6)
 - 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 or natural laws relating to plants.
2. As we close, let us consider a final point made in 1 Peter 1:22-25 about being born again by God's Word.