

GROWTH

Health & Flourishment through Agricultural Analogy

Josh Spoelstra 14 April 2024



Seeding

Jesus' Death

Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.' (John 12:23-24 ESV)

A kernel is a wheat seed. There are about <u>50</u> <u>kernels</u> in a head of wheat

(oklahoma4h.okstate.edu/aitc/les sons/extras/facts/wheat.html)



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Our Dying (to self)

if we died with Christ, we have faith that we will also live with him

(Romans 6:8 CEB)

Reaping

Jesus' Resurrection

- ...Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. (1 Corinthians 15:20 NRSV)
 - Revelation 1:5
 - Colossians 1:18

Our (Spiritual) Resurrection

- ...the resurrection of the dead...each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:21, 23 NRSV)
 - James 1:18
 - Romans 8:23

Feasting

Jesus' Glorification

Jesus is the Lord of the harvest

(Luke 10:2; John 4:35-38)

Our Glorification

The faithful are a harvest of righteousness

(Hosea 10:12; 2 Cor 9:10;

Philippians 1:9-11; James 3:18)

Integration

Seeding & Reaping	'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those wholose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.' (Mark 8:34-35 NRSV)
Feasting	And the angel said to me, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb' 'gather for the great supper of God' (Revelation 19:9, 17 NRSV)