



The Redemption of Scrooge

Date: Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Title: "Just Desserts". Is that all?

Text: *Make no mistake, God is not mocked.*

A person will harvest what they plant. (Galatians 6:7, CEB)

This is not a new idea. It is in the bible after all. It makes sense. If you did not plant anything during planting season, you should not expect to harvest anything either, during harvest season. This idea speaks to a great work ethic and personal responsibility. It is a great place to begin but not a good place to end.

Behind the idea of Just Desserts is the myth that everyone has the same opportunities. Plus, as Marley discovered, when we really get what we deserve, we find out it is far different from what we expected. Taken too far, this idea of getting what one deserves diminishes any sense of compassion and sympathy for others whose lot may differ from ours. One tends to be puffed up with pride when one is convinced that "I have done all this by myself, through my own hard work and I have only myself to thank and no one else".

The good news is that something else is at work in God's economy. Grace!!

Thought to Ponder: Do you really want to get what you deserve?

Prayer: Merciful God of grace, as we live with the tension of personal responsibility and grace, may be guided in all things by wisdom that comes from grace-filled lives. Amen.

Other Prayer Topics: God, what do you want Pitt Pres to do and be in 2019? Please make that clear to us so that we may live in obedience to your will and ways. Amen