

Fruit pt.2

“Love”

Galatians 5: 22 -26 [KJ]

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another”

Galatians 5: 22-26 [Message]

“But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity.

We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates [spreading through something] things and people.

We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

23-24 Legalism is helpless in bringing this about; it only gets in the way. Among those who belong to Christ, everything connected with getting our own way and mindlessly responding to what everyone else calls necessities is killed off for good—crucified.

25-26 Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives.

That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse.

We have far more interesting things to do with our lives.

Each of us is an original”

Our desire should be to earnestly seek:

Matthew 6:33 – to seek - "the Giver and not the gifts" **then "all these things (Christ-like qualities) shall be added unto you"**

* Through the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit / by choice!

We must remember that *gifts are given*, but *spiritual fruit is developed*

* The *fruit of the Spirit* (also known as our Spiritual Medicine Chest) comes to us when we receive Jesus Christ as our personal Savior; however, *it only comes as a small seed* which must be *nurtured* and *developed* in our lives (or watered) through prayer, by reading the Word, and by putting faith into action.

If Jesus Christ is in us, then we should be Christ like

* The *fruit of the Spirit* is the *display of the character of Christ*

* It is *His presence within us* that enables us develop the spiritual fruit in our lives.

I find it quite fascinating that the Bible both begins and ends talking about fruit

Genesis 2: 15-16

"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man saying, 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat'..."

Revelation 22: 1-2

"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations"

God's Divine Purpose for your life is for you to bear spiritual fruit

Your relationship to Jesus is described in [John 15:5](#) in this way, "He is the vine, and we are the branches"

In [John 15:16](#) the Bible declares, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and *bring forth fruit*, and that *your fruit should remain*: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you"

In order to bear this fruit, you must be planted and properly rooted spiritually:

Psalm 1:1-3

"Blessed is the man that walketh *not in the counsel of the ungodly*, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And *he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water*, that *bringeth forth his fruit in his season*; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper"

If you want to bear spiritual fruit, then you must walk in holiness, and delight in God's Word – [Radio this morning talk show talking about holy people vs good people and Heaven – folks good people DO NOT Go to heaven unless Holiness is in their life.]

[Hebrews 10:25](#) **tells us not to** "forsake the assembling of ourselves together"

Psalm 92:13-14

"Those that be *planted in the house of the LORD* shall flourish in the courts of our God. *They shall bring forth fruit* in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing..."

A Supernatural Process

Bearing fruit is a supernatural process but it that takes nurturing Jesus produces the fruit and we bear it

Galatians 5: 25

"Since this is the kind of life *we have chosen, the life of the Spirit*"

The Father is the divine gardener who supervises the process:

John 15: 1-2

"I am the true vine, and *my Father is the husbandman*. Every branch in me that beareth not *fruit* he taketh away: and every branch that beareth *fruit*, he purgeth (prunes or refines) it, that it may bring forth more *fruit*"

The *purging process* is one that may Christians reject because when they go through difficulties in their lives they always think that the devil is attacking them

* *God prunes productive plants* for the same reason a farmer prunes – **WHY? *To produce more fruit.***

Jesus' parable of the barren tree in Luke 13: 6-9 illustrates how God works continually and patiently with the unproductive to produce fruit.

"A certain young man who had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and *sought fruit thereon*, and *found none*. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, 'Behold, these three years I come *seeking fruit* on this fig tree, and find none: *cut it down; why cumbereth it in the ground*'? And he answering unto him, 'Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down'"

Luke 13: 6-9 [Amplified]

"6 And He told them this parable: A certain man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and *he came looking for fruit* on it, but *did not find [any]*.

7 So he said to the vinedresser, See here!

For these three years *I have come looking for fruit* on this fig tree and I find none. Cut it down!

Why should it continue also to use up the ground [to deplete the soil, intercept the sun, and take up room]?

8 But he replied to him, Leave it alone, sir, [just] this one more year, till I dig around it and put manure [on the soil].

9 Then perhaps it will *bear fruit* after this; but if not, you can cut it down and out"

* Thank the Lord for Mercy and Grace – He gives us opportunities to bear fruit!

The Nine Manifestations of Gods Fruit

The book of Galatians identifies the *Christ-like qualities* that God wants to produce in our lives:

Galatians 5:22-23

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law"

Notice that the "fruit" of the Spirit is singular (not plural), for there is one fruit revealed in nine separate supernatural manifestations.

Peter wrote:

2 Peter 1:8

"For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ"

Ephesians 5:9 - tells us that we are - "filled with these fruits [Manifestations] of righteousness only by Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God"

Galatians 5:22-23

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law"

The first three focus *on our relationship* with God

- * **LOVE** [brotherly love, affection, good will, love]
- * **JOY** [gladness, the joy received from the Lord, the cause or occasion of joy]
- * **PEACE** [the way that leads to peace (salvation) - the Messiah's peace - exemption from the rage and havoc of war]