

## Lesson 20:

### 1. The fruit of the Holy Spirit

#### A. The commands to bear fruit

- One of the main objectives of the Holy Spirit is to bear fruit for Christ through believers.
- When we think of **fruit**, we need to think of it in terms of what is produced or originated from something. Just as an apple tree produces the fruit of an apple, so too does the Christian produce the fruit of the Spirit.
- Romans 6:22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your **fruit unto holiness**, and the end everlasting life.
- Romans 7:4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should **bring forth fruit unto God**.
- Colossians 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, **being fruitful in every good work**, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- Genesis 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, **Be fruitful**, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.
- Genesis 49:22 Joseph **is a fruitful bough**, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:
- Psalms 1:3 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.

#### B. The prerequisites for bearing fruit = D-A-Y = Die, Abide, Yield

##### 1. DIE: One must die to this world

- John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.
- If you study wheat you will learn several things about it. The seed inside of a grain of wheat is called the fruit or germ. It is what produces more wheat. The outside of the wheat grain, which is the “bran” and the next layer called the “endosperm” both must die away to allow the fruit inside to produce more wheat.
- Think of it in terms of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In order for us to be saved Jesus first had to die. From His resurrection he produced new life for all who will believe.
- We too as Christians are to die to our selves and the world so that we can allow fruit to be produced to glorify Christ.

##### 2. ABIDE: One must abide in the Savior

- John 15:2-5 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

- John 15:16 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 you.

### **3. YIELD: One must yield to the spirit**

- Romans 6:13-19 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.
- So, remember the acronym **D-A-Y**= Die, Abide, Yield

## **C. The New Testament speaks of several different kinds of fruit**

### **1. Souls won to Christ**

- John 4:35-36 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. 36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.
- Proverbs 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.
- Romans 1:13 Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.

### **2. Holy Living**

- Romans 6:22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

### **3. Gifts brought to God**

- Romans 15:26-28 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem. 27 It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things. 28 When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain.

### **4. Good works**

- Colossians 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

### **5. Praise**

- Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

## 6. Christian character

- Ephesians 5:9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)
- Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
- The word fruit is in the singular. These are to be displayed by every believer.

## D. The purpose of the fruit of the spirit

### 1. Purpose: Magnify the Lord Jesus Christ

- Psalms 29:2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- Job 36:24 Remember that thou magnify his work, which men behold.
- Psalms 34:3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

### 2. Purpose: Give testimony to the transformed life

- Matthew 7:15-20: Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.
- Despite what some people believe, there is no such thing as a “secret Christian.” Those that have truly been transformed by the saving grace of God will have a changed life. One that desires to live for the Lord and to produce fruit for the Lord. The Bible clearly indicates that this is how you mark a true believer from a false one – by their fruits.

### 3. Purpose: Show the work of God in believer's life

- Since every believer is indwelt with the Holy Spirit upon conversion, then we have the means of producing the works of the Holy Spirit which are, the works of God.
- If we have genuine faith then we have within us the ability live and produce a Godly life. The Apostle Peter indicates this in the opening of his 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle:

#### 2 Peter 1:1-4

1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

## **E. The presentation of the fruit of the spirit**

### **1. Nine is the number for fruit bearing**

- Nine Fruits of the Spirit: Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
- **Interesting Trivia:** GALATIANS spelled with 9 letters and is the 9<sup>th</sup> book in the N.T. and gives us the 9 fruits of the Spirit.
- Paul compares the **fruit of the flesh** with the **fruit of the Spirit:**  
**Galatians 5:16-26**  
16 *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.  
17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.  
18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.  
19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,  
20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,  
21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.  
22 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.