

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE.

GAL. 5,22

Here is a contrast of the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit.

Here is a pretty gruesome picture of conflict that ends in complete triumph for one and complete vanquishment of the other.

There can be no truce or harmony between the two. There can be no armistice. No reconciliation.

Each is bent on the banishment of the other.

Paul is describing the trouble and conflicts that arises in carnal mind life. Here he earnestly exorts them to :Walk in the spirit. He shows the subsequent and inevitable results of trying to live with the car nal mind , or trying to bear fruit and obey the lusts of the flesh at once.

Christianity is an individual affair.

Theology and doctrine may be questioned and doubted .

But Christianity wins its final victory in the individual life. I a life-that is loved mastered.

He shows the gruesome pile of the works of the flesh and in a word says the Fruit of the Spirit is LOVE.

He seems to pause here this is a complete sentence.

Some translators have tried to change the verb here to say the fruies of the spirit are Love, joy, etc

But I take it that it is a just as Paul meant it. THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE.

He has said it all here.

We often hear of these graces called the nine fruits of the Spirit.

Put in one semoe there is only one fruit of the Spirit.

All of these others are but the qualities, quantities and flavors of this fruit broken up into its component parts.

They are simply the diversifying flavors of the one fruit of the spirit.

Love is the ocrastra and these are the notes of harmony that flow along the great music of love.

The three words here of special significance are

FRUIT    SPIRIT    LOVE

1- Fruit presupposes life.

There can be no fruit without life.

It also presupposes growth.

A fruit bearing christian vibrates with life and development.

Jesus said every branch in me that beareth fruit he purgeth it that it might bring fourth more fruit.

Every branch that beareth not fruit he taketh away.

Thus the constant process of development and growth is necessary to remain in the vine and draw life and sustenance from the vine.

2- Fruit indicates Cultivation;

Fruit comes to perfection only in ~~the~~ answer to the touch of cultivation.

(Fruit may grow uncultivated, but it will be faulty, culls and will fully mature)

3- Fruit naturally suggests sustenance,, food.

The fruit of the christian life is food for a starving world. This world has eat the husks of the swine long enough. They have been fed of theology, ritual, formalism, fanaticism, emptiness, husks if you please, long enough. What this world needs most is the display of real christian fruit.

4- Fruit here containg within it the power of propogation.

The power to reproduce after itd kind.

The fruitx of the Spibixaxe God given, God inspired, But the works of the flesh are the works of men.

They contain within them the elements of death.

*Tatluu Sir*

*Not Bread alone*

*Tatluu Food*

*Disintegrate*

They are all within the realm of death and contain within them the elements of disintegration.

Man's finest works are in the realm of death.

These Buildings, could not be erected until man handled dead materials.

The tree must die before man can carve it into his works.

Even while man works to effect his finest product the old mossy fingers of ~~man's~~ time begin his work of tearing it down.

Man may paint a picture of fruit but it will fade.

Man may make it of wax but it will perish.

Only a Tree, a live tree, a cultivated tree can bear fruit. And only God can make a tree.

5- Fruit implies cultivation:

Not all cultivation is pleasant.

It takes digging<sup>s</sup> pruning- cutting back. Cutting off old hardened roots.

God holds the pruning knife in his hands.

The Father is the Husbandman.

Often the bitterness of disappointment, the stroke of a lingering affliction, the blasting of your well laid plans may seem to you the work of Satan and ~~the~~ tempt you to believe that God doesn't care, But it may be the work of cultivation and pruning that you may bear more fruit.

Christian Character only comes by cultivation, and pruning

In a word FRUIT IS WHAT GOD WANTS

John 3:17 <sup>People</sup> the ax is laid at the root of the tree.

Every tree that beareth not fruit is cut down.

Then the qualifications for continued life is fruit bearing.

Jesus went to the fig tree for fruit. He found none and cursed it and it died.

The Spirit

*rebellion*

The harmony of my spirit with Gods spirit are the conditions under which fruit grows and comes to perfection.

② Joy: Is the bubbling over of love. ⑧

Love is that constant virtue out of which every other grace grows.

Joy is seasonal, it ebbs and flows. ⑨

③ PEACE:

not the peace after a war. where one subdues and conquers another. But a peace when two foes forgive and forgets.

Not a buried hatchet but a hatchet destroyed.

⑩ LONGSUFFERING:

LOVES HABIT, it is the practice of longsuffering until it becomes a habit.

⑪ Kindness: Is doing good things for others.

⑫ GOODNESS: LOVES QUANTITY.

⑬ FATHERFULNESS: ~~LOVES~~ QUALITY.

FRUIT IS THE CLIMAX OF ALL EFFORT, THE HIGHEST ATTAINMENT OF ANY MAN IS TO BEAR FRUIT. CULTIVATION, EFFORT OF ALL KIND CAN ACHIEVE ONLY ONE ULTIMATE THAT IS FRUITBEARING.

A TREE HAS REACHED PERFECTION WHEN IT HAS BORN FRUIT.

IT CAN ONLY GO BACK AND PRODUCE AGAIN.

THAT IS ALL THAT GOD WORKING IN YOU CAN DO, ALL HE WANTS, ALL HE EXPECTS.

FRUIT IS THE HIGHEST POINT OF ACHIEVEMENT.

SOME THINK THAT THEY MUST DO SOMETHING MIRACLE, GET SOME REVELATION, HAVE SOME MYSTERY ATTACHED TO THEIR LIFE, BUT NOTHING CAN BE GREATER THAN FRUIT.