



Fruit of the *Spirit*

Fruitfulness

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eousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: {2} Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, {3} as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, {4} by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. {5} But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, {6} to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, {7} to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. {8} For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Philippians 2:13: "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

C. A fruit tree is worthless without fruit.

1. Physically

Matthew 21:19: "And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let not fruit grow on thee henceforward forever. And presently the fig tree withered away."

2. Spiritually

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 it, that it may bring forth more fruit." (See also Luke 13:6-9.)

D. The consequences of not bearing spiritual fruit

1. Cut off from Christ (John 15)

2. 2 Peter 1:9-10, NKJV: "{9} For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. {10} Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble."

3. The parable of the barren fig tree (Luke 13:6-8)

E. What kind of fruit do you bear?

1. Is there evidence in your life of the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit?

2. To say one is a Christian is like a tree claiming to be a tree. The real question is: Are you bearing fruit?