

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
Life in the Spirit
Banská Štiavnica, 11th February 2021

ὁ δὲ καρπὸς τοῦ πνεύματος ἐστὶν ἀγάπη χαρὰ εἰρήνη, μακροθυμία χρηστότης ἀγαθωσύνη, πίστις ²³ πραύτης **ἐγκράτεια**: κατὰ τῶν τοιούτων οὐκ ἔστιν νόμος

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law

Προσέχετε ἀπὸ τῶν ψευδοπροφητῶν, οἵτινες ἔρχονται πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἐν ἐνδύμασιν προβάτων, ἔσωθεν δὲ εἰσὶν λύκοι ἄρπαγες. ¹⁶ ἀπὸ τῶν καρπῶν αὐτῶν ἐπιγνώσασθε αὐτούς. μήτι συλλέγουσιν ἀπὸ ἀκανθῶν σταφυλὰς ἢ ἀπὸ τριβόλων σῦκα; ¹⁷ οὕτως πᾶν δένδρον ἀγαθὸν καρποὺς καλοὺς ποιεῖ, τὸ δὲ σαπρὸν δένδρον καρποὺς ποιηροὺς ποιεῖ. ¹⁸ οὐ δύναται δένδρον ἀγαθὸν καρποὺς ποιηροὺς ποιεῖν οὐδὲ δένδρον σαπρὸν καρποὺς καλοὺς ποιεῖν. ¹⁹ πᾶν δένδρον μὴ ποιοῦν καρπὸν καλὸν ἐκκόπτεται καὶ εἰς πῦρ βάλλεται. ²⁰ ἄρα γε ἀπὸ τῶν καρπῶν αὐτῶν ἐπιγνώσασθε αὐτούς.

Matthew 7:15-20 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

Ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἄμπελος ἡ ἀληθινὴ καὶ ὁ πατήρ μου ὁ γεωργός ἐστιν. ² πᾶν κλήμα ἐν ἐμοὶ μὴ φέρον καρπὸν αἶρει αὐτό, καὶ πᾶν τὸ καρπὸν φέρον καθαίρει αὐτὸ ἵνα καρπὸν πλείονα φέρῃ. ³ ἤδη ὑμεῖς καθαροὶ ἐστε διὰ τὸν λόγον ὃν λελάληκα ὑμῖν. ⁴ μέναιτε ἐν ἐμοί, καὶ ἐγὼ ἐν ὑμῖν. καθὼς τὸ κλήμα οὐ δύναται καρπὸν φέρειν ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ ἐὰν μὴ μένῃ ἐν τῇ ἀμπέλῳ, οὕτως οὐδὲ ὑμεῖς ἐὰν μὴ ἐν ἐμοὶ μένητε. ⁵ ἐγὼ εἰμι ἡ ἄμπελος, ὑμεῖς τὰ κλήματα. ὁ μένων ἐν ἐμοὶ καὶ ἐγὼ ἐν αὐτῷ οὗτος φέρει καρπὸν πολὺν, ὅτι χωρὶς ἐμοῦ οὐ δύνασθε ποιεῖν οὐδέν. ⁶ ἐὰν μὴ τις μένῃ ἐν ἐμοί, ἐβλήθη ἔξω ὡς τὸ κλήμα καὶ ἐξηράνθη καὶ συναγοῦσιν αὐτὰ καὶ εἰς τὸ πῦρ βάλλουσιν καὶ καίεται. ⁷ ἐὰν μένητε ἐν ἐμοὶ καὶ τὰ ῥήματά μου ἐν ὑμῖν μένῃ, ὃ ἐὰν θέλητε αἰτήσασθε, καὶ γενήσεται ὑμῖν. ⁸ ἐν τούτῳ ἐδοξάσθη ὁ πατήρ μου, ἵνα καρπὸν πολὺν φέρητε καὶ γένησθε ἐμοὶ μαθηταί. ⁹ Καθὼς ἠγάπησέν με ὁ πατήρ, καὶ ἐγὼ ὑμᾶς ἠγάπησα· μέναιτε ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ τῇ ἐμῇ. ¹⁰ ἐὰν τὰς ἐντολάς μου τηρήσητε, μενεῖτε ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ μου, καθὼς ἐγὼ τὰς ἐντολάς τοῦ πατρός μου τητήρηκα καὶ μένω αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ ἀγάπῃ. ¹¹ Ταῦτα λελάληκα ὑμῖν ἵνα ἡ χαρὰ ἡ ἐμὴ ἐν ὑμῖν ἢ καὶ ἡ χαρὰ ὑμῶν πληρωθῇ.

John 15:1-11 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

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0. INTRODUCTION

0.1. AN ORGANIC METAPHOR

- Isa 5 → Israel, a vineyard
- **Luke 13:6-9** And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸ And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹ Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.
- → gifts = metaphor of friendly relationship

[LLOYD-JONES *Joy Unspeakable*] ...you can be baptized with the Spirit and not show the fruit of the Spirit, for you can be baptized with the Spirit immediately at the point of conversion. We have seen an instance of that—the household of Cornelius. But that does not guarantee the fruits. Fruit means growth. That is development, that is sanctification, that is something quite different. ... The fruit of the Spirit, on the other hand, is a process. This is the result of the indirect, constant, regular work of the Spirit within us as he uses the (1) word and the teaching and (2) example of others and (3) fellowship with others—thus the fruit of the Spirit is produced in us. Not suddenly; that is a whole gradual process of sanctification, and it is of course that to which Ephesians 5:18 refers.

0.2. A WORD IN SINGULAR

- [Billy GRAHAM *The Holy Spirit*] In his book *The Fruit of the Spirit*, Manford George Gutzke compares the fruit of the Spirit to light: "All the colors of the rainbow are in every beam of sunlight. They all are there at any one time. They may not always come into vision, but they are all present. It is not necessary to think of them as being so many separate colors. Just as these colors of the rainbow are present in light, so these traits of personal conduct are in the working of the Holy Spirit.

1. WHAT IS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT?

1.1. CHARACTER

- fruit → the Sermon on the Mount (Beatitudes)
- definition [*Oxford English Dictionary*] 11 The sum of the moral and mental qualities which distinguish an individual or a race, viewed as a homogeneous whole; the individuality impressed by nature and habit on man or nation; mental or moral constitution. Moral qualities strongly developed or strikingly displayed

1.2. THE PORTRAIT OF JESUS

- **Gal 4:19** ...my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!

1.3. THE CHARACTER TRAITS OF JESUS

- Gal 5:22-23

[CAMPBELL MORGAN *The Spirit of God*] These are the evidences of Christian character looked for in all those who profess to belong to Christ, the things that differentiate between a Christly and a worldly soul. There can be no manifestation of them save under the perpetual control of the Spirit. Neither is it possible to work for God except in the energy of the Spirit. There may be a great deal of what appears to be Christian work, but it is absolutely devoid of power unless thus energized.

1.3.1. THE LOVE OF JESUS

- → “embrace” compassion; in search for the one lost sheep
- (ἀγάπη) [GRAHAM] Bishop Stephen Neill has defined love as “a steady direction of the will toward another’s lasting good.”
- the Spirit as the love of the Trinity (AUGUSTINE)
- (1) “open arms” (2) self giving (3) complete trust
- **1 Corinthians 13:4-8** Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends

1.3.2. THE JOY OF JESUS

- → “upbeat” (optimistic or positive mood); joy of seeing the works of the Father
- (χαρά) [BARCLAY] It is not the joy that comes from earthly things, still less from triumphing over someone else in competition. It is a joy whose foundation is God.
- (1) praising God → sense of glory; (2) joy of creativity → inexhaustible energy; (3) joy of salvation → final victory over any trouble
- **John 4:32** "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

1.3.3. THE PEACE OF JESUS

- → “assurance”; sleeping in the storm at the sea
- (εἰρήνη) [BARCLAY] means not just freedom from trouble but everything that makes for a man’s highest good. Here it means that tranquillity of heart which derives from the all-pervading consciousness that our times are in the hands of God. It is interesting to note that Chara and Eirene both became very common Christian names in the Church.
- (1) absolute certainty (Ex 3:14) (2) **Is 26:3** You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

1.3.4. THE PATIENCE OF JESUS

- → “safety”; bearing with the slowness of the disciples
- (μακροθυμία) [BARCLAY] Chrysostom said that it is the grace of the man who could revenge himself and does not, the man who is slow to wrath. The most illuminating thing about it is that it is commonly used in the New Testament of the attitude of God towards men (Rom.2:4; Rom.9:22; 1Tim.1:16; 1Pet.3:20).
- (1) **Heb 9:14** the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God;

1.3.5. THE KINDNESS OF JESUS

- → “approachable”; children on his arms

- (χρηστότης) [VINE] It signifies “not merely goodness as a quality, rather it is goodness in action, goodness expressing itself in deeds; yet not goodness expressing itself in indignation against sin, for it is contrasted with severity in Rom 11:22 (ἴδε οὖν χρηστότητα καὶ ἀποτομίαν θεοῦ), but in grace and tenderness and compassion
- **Acts 10:38** He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

[JEFFERSON *The Character of Jesus*] When he urged men to give freely, abundantly, lavishly, gladly, continually, he was only preaching what he himself practised. He had no money to give, but he gave without stint what he had. He had time and he gave it. The golden hours were his and he gave them. He gave them all. So recklessly did he give them that in order to find time to pray it was necessary to use hours when other men were sleeping.

1.3.6. THE GOODNESS OF JESUS

- → “ideal”; Etymology (Greek) → Which is admired; be superior; desirable; **Mark 10:18** And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.
- (ἀγαθωσύνη) [BARCLAY] Trench says that Jesus showed agathosune when he cleansed the Temple and drove out those who were making it a bazaar; but he showed chrestotes when he was kind to the sinning woman who anointed his feet.
- **2Cor 8:9** For you know the grace (τὴν χάριν) of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich (δι’ ὑμᾶς ἐπτώχευσεν πλούσιος ὢν, ἵνα ὑμεῖς τῇ ἐκείνου πτωχείᾳ πλουτήσητε).

1.3.7. THE FAITHFULNESS OF JESUS

- → “reliability” faith & faithfulness
- (πίστις) [BARCLAY] is common in secular Greek for trustworthiness. It is the characteristic of the man who is reliable.
- speech → “Amen, amen” sayings
- relationships → John 21 (Peter’s restoration)

1.3.8. THE GENTLENESS OF JESUS

- → “power” “performance”; **Mark 7:32-34** And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.
- (πραΰτης) [VINE] ...the meekness manifested by the Lord and commended to the believer is the fruit of power. The common assumption is that when a man is meek it is because he cannot help himself; but the Lord was ‘meek’ because he had the infinite resources of God at His command. Described negatively, meekness is the opposite to self-assertiveness and self-interest; it is equanimity of spirit that is neither elated nor cast down, simply because it is not occupied with self at all
- **Mt 11:29-30** Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle (πραΰς εἰμι) and lowly in heart (ταπεινὸς τῇ καρδίᾳ), and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

1.3.9. THE SELF-CONTROL OF JESUS

- → “moral perfection” never used unguarded word...
- (ἐγκράτεια) [BARCLAY] the virtue which makes a man so master of himself that he is fit to be the servant of others
- Jesus before Pilate; Jesus on the cross...

2. WHAT ARE THE HINDRANCES?

2.1. IGNORANCE

- **Acts 19:2** → “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

2.2. THE SELF

- → WESLEY’S *second blessing* (sanctification as a crisis)
- **Mt 10:39** Whoever finds his life (soul) will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it
- **Mt 16:25** For whoever would save his life (soul) will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it

2.3. WORLDLY CARES

- → Parable of the sower → **Mt 13:22** As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the (1) cares of the world and the (2) deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful

3. HOW DOES IT GROW?

3.1. THE WORD

- READ! THINK! ADMIRE! MEDITATE! (1) hear (2) read (3) study (4) memorize (5) meditate [“the five fingers of the hand”]
- **Psalm 1:2** his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night (→ Parable of the Sower!)

3.2. THE SOURCE OF LIFE

- COMMUNICATE! IDENTIFY! LOVE!
- John 15 → prayer;
- **Romans 6:3-4** Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

3.3. GIVING ENERGY (“BODY”)

- SERVE! DO! GO!
- **Rom 12:1** I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

4. TO REMEMBER

- The fruit of the Spirit is an absolutely necessary proof of salvation.
- The fruit of the Spirit grows where the soil is prepared for it.
- The goal is to reflect the image of Jesus in his followers.