

Bearing much good fruit Jesus the true vine

Since the vine relates to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit as the source of the good fruit that will be brought forth. Without God's presence there can be no good fruit or good works, nothing good at all. We need to redefine what is meant in a spiritual sense as "good".

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Mark 10: 18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God.

Phil. 1: 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform [it] until the day of Jesus Christ:

Heb. 13:20, 21 20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom [be] glory for ever and ever. Amen

John 15:1-11

John 15:1, 2 1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 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.

"In me" is following the metaphor of the vine and branches, if does not mean the same as Paul means when he says "in Christ". The idea of bearing fruit here demonstrates the necessity of allowing God to produce in a believer, good works, or good fruit, which can only be produced by the power of God in someone; not to be confused with "good works" that are of the flesh and look good to others, but which are not lead by the Spirit. Which may be helpful but since they are not brought forth through the power of God they are not the good works or good fruit spoken from God. If there is no evidence of, good fruit from God, then that branch, (Person) will be removed, taken away, not a true believer. Those who bear fruit will be purged (to cleanse, of filth impurity, to prune trees and vines from useless shoots) this comes through trials to show where we are weak, through tribulations that allow us to be tested to prove our faith in God. Since the good fruit actually come through the power of the Holy Spirit and not from man, an absence of good fruit or good works, is not the failure of the individual it is the absences of the power of God (the Holy Spirit) Who enables the one to produce these good works.

Good fruit comes through the fruit of the Spirit which come directly through the Holy Spirit.

Gal. 5: 22,23 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

*Sometimes we see these fruit as a end as to themselves, as only characteristics we need to attain to, as in having the attributes of God; however these fruits are also means to fulfill good works, which we were created for, which allows us to live a life in tune with the way Jesus lived, making us an example for others. God's **moral attributes** reveal God outwardly in His relation to His creation. These moral attributes are: Holy, Righteous, Just, Merciful, Long-suffering, Wise, Loving, Good, Truthful, and Faithful. Wrathful and Jealous, not so much.*

15: 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

John 13:11 For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean. *The Word of God gives us understanding as to what is clean, or what is expected of us from God and since the Word of God is anointed and is the power of God unto salvation, it is power to those who apply it. Just hearing the Word does not clean.*

Rom. 1: 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

15: 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.

The absence of good works or the fruit of the Spirit is evidence of not being saved, and I continue to get accused, that my reasoning is teaching works salvation. However, in verse 4 the branch has to be connected to the vine in order for it to produce good fruit, or good work. These good results come from abiding in Jesus and Him in us, which is the only way to exhibit these fruits. If these fruits are not evident, it is not a personal flaw, it is that the Holy Spirit is not being allowed to complete that good work God is trying to start in the lost ,whom He has called, which begins at the time they are truly saved.

Acts 10: 37 That word, [I say], ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; 38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

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

It is not us working to get saved it is God working in us to will and do His good pleasure. He is not working in those who continue to reject Him.

15:5 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.

*He that abideth in Christ and Christ in Him brings forth **much good fruit**. Isn't it plain enough in the next sentence without Me ye can do nothing. So God sees the things we can do outside His power, without His presence, as (nothing) and not being considered good in the sense of God providing every good and perfect gifts as in James 1:17 above.*

15:6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast [them] into the fire, and they are burned.

Even though God is merciful, and long-suffering there is, in every life, a time of judgment and a day of reckoning. God promises those called by God will come, those who come to Jesus He will accept, those who come will in no wise be cast out. Here we see some who appeared to be walking with Christ were not nourished from the root and were never saved.

15: 7, 8 7 If ye abide in me, and my **words** abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. *Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. When God's Word abides in us and He in turn also abides in us, we will ask; what we know God's will, permits for us and know that we will receive the things that agree with God's calling for us. It is not that we can ask for anything and receive it, because there are a lot of things that man desires that are certainly not of God's will. So man can not expect God to go against His will to give man something that will draw man out of their calling. God can not be glorified when we serve self and fulfill the desires of the flesh over the spiritual. In order to glorify God a believer must produce **much Godly good fruit**. As it says in the last part of verse 8 so shall ye be my disciples, my children, and the saved.*

15: 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

Jesus was loved very greatly by the Father and yet He was not excused from obeying the Father's will over His will, even though He was divine. How then can man expect an intimate relationship with God but refuse to submit to the Father's will. The love the Father loved Jesus with, demanded obedience. He also expects the same thing from us. The only way man can continue in God's love is to possess the Holy Spirit and allow God's love to flow through man. Man is unable to possess that God's love without God abiding in them and them in Him.

15:10, 11 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and [that] your joy might be full.

Jesus speaks to His disciples and anyone who would be a disciple as He states; when (if) you keep my commandments then ye shall abide in His love. This is the only way God's love can abide in anyone. Jesus says since it was necessary for Him to obey His Father, even being equal to God, it is just as necessary for Jesus disciples to be obedient to God. When this is accomplished; one's joy will be full no matter what the circumstances around one might be. God's joy comes from obedience to His perfect will. Bearing much fruit comes from someone totally sold out to obedience and submission to the Father.

Matt. 3: 7-9 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet (of one who has merited anything worthy) for repentance: 9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to [our] father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

These Pharisees were turned away from being baptized because there was no evidence of a changed life, no fruit meet (worthy) which develops repentance through Godly sorrow.

2 Cor. 7:10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of {turned away from}: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Sorrow brought forth by God through the conviction of the Holy Spirit causes true repentance which leads to true salvation.