



## Fruitful

### Part 2

May 12, 2024

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

them by their fruits.” May the Lord add His Blessing to the Reading and the Hearing of His word today, in Jesus Name! Amen!

Both the Gifts of the Spirit and the Fruit of the Spirit are Supernatural!  
(Teach)

1. When our Lives become Fruitful in our Faith, We Understand that the Fruit of the Spirit is the One thing We can't Counterfeit!

- a. When we live our lives in and through the Holy Spirit, others will recognize that you have fruit that is contrary to your humanity!
- b. Church Family, there is a difference between Leaves and Fruit; there's a huge difference between having a form of godliness and actually manifesting the genuineness of godliness!
- c. The Gospel of Saint Matthew 21:18-20, <sup>18</sup>“In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. <sup>19</sup>And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once. <sup>20</sup>When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, “How did the fig tree wither at once?”

- d. Isn't it interesting how Jesus saw the leaves but was frustrated that there was not fruit... And the lack of fruit brought a curse. Church family, when the leaves (Form of Godliness) of our lives draw people to us but the fruit of our lives doesn't impact people then we are just as this fig tree noted in The Gospel of Saint Matthew 21; we have the signs of fruitfulness without the fruit.
- i. Adam and Eve - Covered with leaves but not Fruitful
  - ii. Jesus - Fig Tree - Covered with leaves but not fruitful
- e. Leaves are signs of fruitfulness but without the fruit, the leaves are deceptive; again a form of Godliness but no fruit...
- f. 2 Timothy 3:1-5, **“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. <sup>2</sup>For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, <sup>4</sup>treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup>having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.”**
- g. You can have leaves without fruit but you can't have fruit without leaves; we must both bear the sign and the substance of our Faith in Christ!

- h. What does Paul say? “Avoid such people” Avoid those who have leaves but no fruit. Avoid those who have a form of Godliness but deny the power thereof. This is the reason why Jesus cursed the fig tree and this is the very same reason that we must bear fruit. He expects more from us than Leaves...
- i. Remember today that when our lives become Fruitful in our Faith, we understand that the Fruit of the Spirit is the One thing we can't counterfeit! We must have the real thing!

## 2. When our Lives become Fruitful in our Faith, We Understand that our Gifts may Gain Some Attention but Our Fruit is what People will Remember about You!

- a. It must be understood that Gifts are Great but Fruit requires daily tending... The Fruit of Christ is the Character of Christ and it is the character of Christ that must
- b. Psalm 92:12-15, <sup>12</sup>“The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. <sup>13</sup>They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. <sup>14</sup>They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, <sup>15</sup>to declare that the Lord is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.”

- c. May I draw your attention to verse 14, “<sup>14</sup>They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green,<sup>15</sup> to declare that the Lord is upright.”
- d. To my seasoned saints! To those who have a history of serving Jesus! Hear my appeal to you today! The Anointing requires a call to action. The Anointing is meant to equip you to perform a task and not rest on your laurels!
- e. To ‘rest on your laurels’ means that we get lazy or complacent about what we could achieve because we become too busy remembering former glories and failing to embrace the Lord’s current Glory!
- f. Psalm 145:4, “One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.”
- g. Sadly, my generation knows nothing of the miracles that the older generations represented in this sanctuary today have seen; not because we don’t desire it but rather we don’t know how to get it.
- h. Precious saints, please hear the heart of this young preacher today, the revival that will sweep my generation will be birthed when we see the value of fathering or mothering this generation and begin to show them what it means to walk in the Spirit.

- i. And not just that but also what it means to flow in the Holy Ghost, and what it means to be faithful to God in word, in action, and in deed.
- j. I am the fruit of great Men of God who poured into me! When one generation declared to the next generation the Glories of God! I am who I am today because the generation ahead me invested in me! Namely Bishop Pettis Brewer, Bishop Tim Bass, Pastor Shane Warren and Pastor Don Nordin.
- k. I am who I am today because those men saw the value of pouring themselves into the next generation. And I am challenging you this morning to do the same.
- l. The Generations to come will remember us not for just the gifts that we demonstrated but for the fruit that we bore! The old adage is true when noted, “People will always remember you for the way that you made them feel.” Your Fruit in the Spirit is what makes you memorable!
- m. Could it be that the Gifts of the Spirit have a longer lasting impact in the lives of others when we manifest the Fruit of the Spirit? A generation is waiting on us to burn for Christ! Christ is King to the Glory of God the Father!

n. I want you to remember today that When our lives become Fruitful in our Faith, We Understand that our Gifts may Gain Some Attention but Our Fruit is what People will Remember about You!

3. When our Lives become Fruitful in our Faith, the Fruit of the Spirit will Demand that We Die in so that We May Live!

a. The Book of Romans 13:11-14, “<sup>11</sup> Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”

b. Friends, fruit comes when we die to ourselves; when we put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh to gratify its desires!

- c. And why is it so important to put on Christ? Because our salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand! Church Family! Jesus is Coming!
- d. The Gospel of Saint John 14:1-3, “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”
- e. The day is at hand and if there has ever been a time that we should embrace the Lord and let the Spirit of God bring order to our lives, it is today! Today is the day for you to put on Christ! It is time that We Die in so that We May Live!