

THE GIVER **AND** HIS GIFTS

The Giver and His Gifts Series

Part 4

March 20, 2022

The Fruit of the Spirit (Part 3)

Galatians 5:16-26, ¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as

I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 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. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

When the Fruit begins to be discernible and the Gifts are being exhibited, it is evidential that you are Walking with the Lord!
Fruit never has to announce its presence; it's visible for all to see!

1. The Fruit of the Spirit will only Grow and the Gifts of the Spirit will only manifest with Power when the Works of the Flesh have Been Put to Death!

- a. The decision to live for Christ is a daily decision; and it is said decision that requires that we die to ourselves in so that we might live unto Christ!

b. Luke 9:23-26, “²³ And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. ²⁵ For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? ²⁶ For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”

c. Deny who? = Yourself

d. Take Up what? = Your Cross

e. Follow Who? = Christ

f. It is abundantly clear that if we are to state that we are Followers of Christ then my question for all of us is, “Where’s Your Cross?”

g. The Cross of Christ requires that we die to ourselves, our desires, our opinions, our perspectives, and our feelings in so that Christ can be magnified in and through our lives!

h. So again, I ask us all, including myself, “Where Is Our Cross?”

i. You can’t follow Christ and follow your own Passions? You can’t be a slave to two masters!

- j. Remember Galatians 5:24-25, “²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”

2. The Fruit of the Spirit, in conjunction with the Gifts of the Spirit, empowers us to live the life of Faith that Christ has called us too!

- a. It is the value and impact of this balancing act that enables us to fulfill the Great Commission! But also, in conjunction to the Great Commission, the Fruit of the Spirit signifies our capacity to become more like Christ!
- b. Romans 8:26-29 records, “²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”

- c. Whose image? Christ's image. And this image is formed by the Holy Spirit operating in and through our lives therefore causing all things to work together for our good because we have been called according to His purpose thus being transformed into His Image by the Power of the Holy Spirit!
- d. The way to be transformed into His Image is to allow the Holy Spirit to bring the Image of Christ through the Character of Christ (The Fruit of the Holy Spirit) being made manifest in our lives for others to see!
- e. And when we walk in the Holy Spirit, we don't have to strain to bring our lives into order but rather simply stay in step with the Spirit of God and follow His Divine Leading.

3. The Power of the Holy Ghost in our lives is the Seal of Heaven on our Lives unto Righteousness, Peace and Joy!

- a. Romans 14:17 records, "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

b. Righteousness – The Infilling of the Holy Spirit is Heaven’s Seal of Redemption because the Spirit of God can not dwell in an unregenerate soul!

- i. You are the Righteousness of God in Christ Jesus!
- ii. The Holy Ghost is Heaven’s Seal of Approval!

c. Peace

- i. Romans 8:6, “For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.”
- ii. When we live with our heart and mind set on the Holy Spirit, Life and Peace become the Norm.
- iii. Choose Peace and Life!

d. Joy

- i. 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7, “⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.”
- ii. The Joy of the Holy Spirit enables you to navigate the attacks of the Enemy! The Weapon may form against but it will not prosper against you, in Jesus Name!