

Rooted in Truth: Seeds, Roots, and Fruits

Those rooted in Christ produce the righteous fruit that pleases God. Disobedience and lies threaten this freedom, it's time to uproot evil fruit with the truth.

They're Broken

“God, why can't they move forward?”

John 4:23-24

New Living Translation

23 But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. 24 For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”

- Reverent love and devotion, a lifestyle of faithful obedience and service.
- Exhibited only in spirit and truth.

2 Corinthians 3:13-18

New Living Translation

13 We are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so the people of Israel would not see the glory, even though it was destined to fade away. 14 But the people's minds were hardened, and to this day whenever the old covenant is being read, the same veil covers their minds so they cannot understand the truth. And this veil can be removed only by believing in Christ. 15 Yes, even today when they read Moses' writings, their hearts are covered with that veil, and they do not understand.

16 But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 So

all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

- Americans live in or have citizenship with America. Christians live in Christ and have citizenship with the Kingdom of God.
- Are we living our lives that are so full of the Holy Spirit and truth that people would say “if Jesus were here that’s how He would live?”

Bad Fruit

Matthew 3:7-8

Amplified Bible

7 But when he saw many of the [a]Pharisees and [b]Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the [divine] wrath and judgment to come? 8 So produce fruit that is consistent with repentance [demonstrating new behavior that proves a change of heart, and a conscious decision to turn away from sin];

- Pharisees and Sadducees were religious and traditional only.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

New Living Translation

The Dangers of the Last Days

3 You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. 2 For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. 3 They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. 4 They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. 5 They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

- The people described here faithfully attend church and even participate in ministry.
- These are they who are broken and reflect incomplete images of Christ.

Matthew 7:15-20

New Living Translation

The Tree and Its Fruit

15 "Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves. 16 You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. 18 A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. 19 So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. 20 Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.

Galatians 5:19-21

New Living Translation

19 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

Fruit Inspections

- Fruit inspections are mandatory because there is only one type of fruit that blesses and proves that we are His own.
- Holy Spirit have I rooted anywhere outside of truth?

Galatians 5:22-26

New Living Translation

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. 25 Since we are living by

the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. 26 Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.

- All the fruit (godly/ungodly character and behavior) in our lives has roots. And every root came from a seed either planted inside of Christ/truth, or sin/lie.
- To destroy evil fruit we must sever the root of disobedience and obey the truth, for new righteous fruit to grow.
- Sin is disobedience to the truth, God's righteous standard of living.

Uprooting Evil Fruit

Ephesians 4:26

New Living Translation

26 And "don't sin by letting anger control you." [a] Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry,

- A person displaying the sinful fruit of anger has a root that came from a seed of sin/disobedience.
- Many times these seeds are thoughts or actions stemming from an event that angered them.
- So before there is fruit there must be a root, and before there is a root there must be a seed.
- Someone says something about you that was untrue, this would be the event or seed.
- What we do next will determine if we produce good or evil fruit. Will we be obedient or disobedient?

Ephesians 4:26

New Living Translation

26 And "don't sin by letting anger control you."

- If we are disobedient the seed breaks open and a root of anger breaks out from the seed, producing sinful fruit.

- Because fruit is seed-bearing as long as the root is there the anger will remain.

Genesis 8:22

New King James Version

22 “While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Winter and summer,
And day and night
Shall not cease.”

- Since there is seedtime and harvest time we must each with the help of God examine our harvests. This is how it’s possible to be angry at someone for 50 years. What fruit cycles do you continue to see? Anger, fornication, lust, lying, stealing, jealousy, bitterness?
- In the same scenario, how could righteous fruit have been produced? If someone says something that angers us, again this is a seed.
- So instead of planting it/handling it within our sinful nature, we plant it in Christ through obedience. This is how to root something in truth/Christ.

Galatians 5:16

New Living Translation

Living by the Spirit’s Power

16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won’t be doing what your sinful nature craves.

- Instead of the evil fruit of sinful and destructive anger that we ourselves produce, we want to display godly character. But how? In order to produce righteous fruit, we must obey the truth, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:26

New Living Translation

26 And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.”....

Galatians 5:22-26

New Living Translation

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

- Whatever happens TO you, make sure it happens THROUGH Christ.
- To uproot =repent and renew our mind from sinful to spiritual.

Rooted in Truth

John 14:6

New Living Translation

6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Colossians 2:6-10

New Living Translation

6 And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. 7 Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

8 Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers[a] of this world, rather than from Christ. 9 For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.[b] 10 So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.

- The brokenness He sees is those parts of our lives that have roots extending out into the lust of the world, after He has planted us into His Son.

John 15:1-8

New Living Translation

Jesus, the True Vine

15 “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. 3 You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

5 “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Anyone who does not remain in me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. 7 But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! 8 When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.

- God gets great glory when we are abundantly fruitful. The abundant life Jesus gives us should be marked with abundant evidence!! His abundant fruit!!