



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

Letters of Faith

September 2012

“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been FILLED WITH THE FRUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”

Phil. 1:9-11 (NASB, emphasis added)

Dearly Beloved,

One of the foundational sets of verses for the life of all Christians is Galatians 5:22-23 which defines for us the fruit of righteousness: **“...when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law.”** (NLT)

You have been called and chosen by Jesus to be so controlled by and yielded to the Holy Spirit that you will bear fruit that is pleasing to Him, and that will bring glory to God our Father. **“You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain...”** (John 15:16 NASB) The fruit of righteousness is supernatural spiritual fruit and it remains! Natural fruit has a very limited lifespan before it spoils.

What kind of fruit is your present elected governmental representatives producing?

Jesus said in John 15:5: **“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.”** Recently while meditating on this verse, I said: *Lord, that verse isn't really true! I have done a whole bunch of things apart from You. In fact, that is why I am crying out to you now—I don't want to do anything more apart from You!* And as He so often does, He chuckled as He responded—*As you learn to abide in Me you will recognize the **nothingness** of all you have done apart from Me!*

But OH! The glory of abiding! Not only for the unique joy of being close to Jesus—being in Him and knowing that He is in you—but because you glorify the Father and demonstrate to the world that you are a disciple of His Son, Jesus Christ! **“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples!”** (John 15:7-8)

That is truly the hope of glory!

We learn to abide in Jesus by accepting and yielding to His discipline, His correcting, and His directing. **“All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.”** (Heb. 12:11)

Fruit is the product of the inherent energy, quality, or enabling power within a living organism—be it a human being's character and behavior, or vegetation's production of food. Jesus says repeatedly in the Gospels that the character of the fruit is evidence of the character of the

internal power producing it and applies this principle to us as human beings—to the “produce” of our lives.

There is power in the fruit of the Holy Spirit because there is fruit in the Holy Spirit of Power.

Beloved, it is the manifestation of the fruit of the Holy Spirit that lets people see the image of Jesus in you—to see His life and character in your life and behavior—that lets you actually represent Jesus.

To the contrary, lawlessness produces the fruit of unredeemed and unrepentant flesh as described in Gal. 5:19-21 NLT **“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, your lives will produce these evil results: sexual immorality, impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, idolatry, participation in demonic activities, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, divisions, the feeling that everyone is wrong except those in your own little group, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and [just as if Paul’s purified mind could not even think of some of the other icky-awfuls] other kinds of sin.”** Sick with grief, Paul then warns his beloved friends: **“Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.”**

What kind of fruit is your present elected governmental representatives producing?

And may we be completely blunt and totally un-PC? The politicians vying for your vote in this coming election that are exhibiting the above fruit of unredeemed and unrepentant flesh must not be allowed to retain power and authority over the United States of America!

We are boldly declaring to all who will listen to us about the present leadership of our country what Jesus declared to the political and religious leaders of His day: **“Beware of the false prophets, [politicians] who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit; but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down [should be removed from office] and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits.”** (Matt. 7:15-20)

Jesus spoke severely to the Pharisees who were not exhibiting the fruit of the Holy Spirit: **“Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you, and be given to a nation producing the fruit of it.”** (Matthew 21:43) Can you hear Him saying this to the ungodly politicians and clergy of today who are wreaking havoc with His divinely established nation? Will you prayerfully seek out and vote for candidates who exhibit the fruit of righteousness in their governmental decisions even though the solutions to today’s problems of governance seem so difficult and so unpopular?

Beloved, we learn to grow the fruit of the Spirit **“...so that you [we] may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God...”** (Colossians 1:10)

Remember, the distinguishing feature of fruit is that it bears its own seeds. **“Then God said, ‘Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit after their kind, with seed in them on the earth’; and it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed after their kind, and trees bearing fruit, with seed in them, after their kind; and God saw that it was good.”** (Gen. 1:11-12)

It is good to bear fruit with seeds after our own kind! It is also a big responsibility because those who partake of the fruit of your life are eating seeds that will reproduce in them the life that is empowering you.

What kind of fruit is your present elected government producing?

Beloved, the tongue speaks from the heart, and there is life and death in the tongue. The words you speak are soaked with the spirit in you from which they are spoken! Your heart is either filled with God—or with the world. Therefore the fruit of your lips brings life or death—heals or wounds—builds up or discourages—feeds righteousness or befouls. **“There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.”** (Proverbs 12:18)

That is the Power of Fruit—in you, and in those who would lead our great nation!

That is why we must elect righteous men and women who are cultivating and spreading the good fruit of the Holy Spirit of God! That is why our votes must unseat the present servants of the Father of Lies and replace them with honest, virtuous, and righteous leaders who will sow seeds of honesty, righteousness, peace, and justice here and around the world.

Please join us as we pray: *Heavenly Father, we repent and ask forgiveness for having elected people who planted such ungodly political seeds in the fertile soil of our (Your!) country. Please return the leadership of America into the hands of righteous men and women who will plant “...seed whose fruit is righteousness [that] is sown in peace by those who make peace.”* (James 3:18)

Hopeful Haglin Hugs,



Paul & Gretel