

The Fruit of the Spirit *Galatians 5:22-26*

Theme: Holy Spirit

Aim: To show that one thing the Spirit led person has is the fruit of the Spirit.

1. We have been considering the person and work of the Holy Spirit. We have discussed who He was/is and what His role was in revealing and confirming the Word through signs and wonders.
2. We have also seen that the baptism of the Holy Spirit was a promise to the apostles and not all Christians.
3. We have seen how the power to perform signs was passed from the apostles to others through the laying on of the Apostle's hands.
4. We have discussed the time when these gifts would pass away.
5. We have also seen that the Bible affirms that the Christian has the Spirit dwelling in him, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 6:19-20.
6. But what does the Holy Spirit do for us today? He produces fruit in the life of the Christian, Romans 8:23. What is that fruit of the Spirit that shows one is really a "spirit led Christian?"

I. Galatians 5:16-26.

A. Paul here draws a series of contrasts.

1. Flesh versus the Spirit.
2. Living and walking in the flesh versus living and walking in the Spirit.
3. The works of the flesh versus the fruit of the Spirit.
4. Serving our own fleshly desires versus being led by the Spirit. What does the Spirit lead us to be or do?

B. What is the fruit of the Spirit that shows one is truly led by the Spirit?

1. Love. *Agape*. We are to be a loving individual.
 - a. It is said we become like what we love.
 - b. What are we to love?
 1. God, Matthew 22:34-38.
 2. Fellowman, Matthew 22:39, John 13:35.
 3. Truth, 2 Thessalonians 2:10.
 4. Family, Ephesians 5.
2. Joy. But one might ask what is there to be joyous over?
 - a. Fellowship of the saints, Philippians 1:3-7.
 - b. Faithfulness of others, salvation of others, Philippians 3:1, 4:2-7.
3. Peace. Not an absence of conflict, but a peace of soul.
 - a. John 14:27.
 - b. Philippians 4:6-9.
4. Longsuffering, patience, endurance. Ability to "hang in there."
 - a. Hebrews 12:1-2.
 - b. Directed toward others, Ephesians 4:1-4, Colossians 3:12-13.
5. Kindness. KJV has gentleness. Also translated "better," "easy," "good," "gracious." It is a positive quality.
 - a. An attribute of God, Ephesians 2:7, Titus 3:4-7.
 - b. A characteristic of love, 1 Corinthians 13:4.
6. Goodness. Moral goodness.
 - a. Romans 2:4, 11:22. It too, is an attribute of God.
 - b. Ephesians 5:9.

7. Faithfulness.

a. Matthew 25:21. “Well done, good and faithful servant...”

b. Several are identified in Scripture as “faithful,” 1 Corinthians 4:17, Colossians 4:7, Hebrews 3:2.

8. Gentleness. KJV has meekness.

a. Matthew 5:5.

b. James 1:21, 1 Peter 3:15.

9. Self-control. Acts 24:25, 2 Peter 1:6.

II. To bring this to a close we must look at Ephesians 5:18-21.

A. Notice the contrast between being filled with the Spirit and being drunk.

1. What is Paul’s point?

2. One who is drunk has no control over self. That is not what being filled with the Spirit is all about.

B. But if one is filled with the Spirit, what will happen?

1. Notice the five things mentioned. Speaking, singing, making melody in your heart, giving thanks and submitting to one another.

2. The Bible presents a totally different picture of one filled with or led by the Spirit than what we see among modern day claimants to the baptism and direct operation of the Holy Spirit.

1. Are you a Spirit filled, Spirit led person today?

2. Is He producing His fruit in your life today?

Michael D. Greene

Elizabethtown church of Christ

6-25-06