

MESSAGE: *“Fruit Bearing”* – Scripture Reading – (John 15:1-14; Mat. 7:15-20)

INTRODUCTION: In the context of identifying and describing “False Prophets and Teachers,” Jesus said: **“Ye shall know them by their fruits”** (Mat. 7:16) **“by their fruits ye shall know them** (v. 20).

DEFINITION & EXPLANATION: Fruit is the by product – consequence or the result of something that is already established. It reveals, and reproduces that which it represents. Fruit is the means of IDENTIFYING, REVEALING or MAKING SOMETHING KNOWN. (Oranges grow on orange trees; Apples on apple trees, Etc.)

PROPOSITION: Let us look at some of the Scripture that uses the word **“FRUIT”** and observe the spiritual context and content of the subject. There are many spiritual lessons to observe and apply to our lives. These things help reveal the **Character, Content and Conduct** of God’s people. The following verses uses the word “FRUIT”

- Christians are to bear Fruit for the glory of God (John 15:8) “Here in is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.” It is an identifying mark of *Discipleship – Dedication – Discipline.*

Soul Winning – The by-product of a Christian, should be another Christian.
We are to reproduce ourselves spiritually (John 4:34-38).

Fruit is associated with a Christian’s daily life style. Godly Living, Holiness, Righteousness – (Rom. 6:16-22)

Fruit is associated with Spiritual Gifts – Holy Spirit Gifts and Graces
(Gal. 5:16-25) Fruit, works of Spirit (vs.22-23) Fruit, works of flesh (19-21)

Fruit is associated with Giving and Sharing – (Philip.4:10-19; v.17)

A Worthy walk, Good works, Service for the Savior (Col.1:9-13, v.10)

Thanksgiving, Appreciation, Gratitude, Praise (Heb. 13:15, 16)

Chastening, God’s Discipline, Correction (Heb.12:5-15; v.11)

Hearing, Heeding (Doing) God’s Word (Mat. 13:3-9; 18-23)

FRUIT BEARING CHRISTIANS

(John 4:34-38) "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. {35} Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. {36} And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. {37} And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. {38} I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours."

(Rom 6:16-22) "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? {17} But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. {18} Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. {19} I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. {20} For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. {21} What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. {22} But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."

(Gal 5:19-21) Fruit or Works of the Flesh: "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, {20} Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance (disagreeing, differing), emulations (Bad sense – envy, jealousy), wrath, strife, seditions (stirring up rebellion), heresies, {21} Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings (to have fun and pleasure in a wrong way), and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Fruit and Works of the Spirit: (Gal 5:22-23) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, {23} Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

(Phil 4:10-19) "But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. {11} Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. {12} I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. {13} I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. {14} Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. {15} Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. {16} For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. {17} Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. {18} But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. {19} But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Law of the Harvest – What you sow, you reap! (2 Cor. 9:6-15))

(Col 1:9-13) "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; {10} **That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;** {11} Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; {12} Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: {13} Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:"

(Heb 13:15-16) "**By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.** {16} But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." (1 Th 5:18) "**In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**"

(Heb 12:5-15) "And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, **My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:** {6} For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. {7} **If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons;** for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? {8} **But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.** {9} Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? {10} For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. {11} **Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.** {12} Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; {13} And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed. {14} Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: {15} Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;"

(Mat 13:3-9) "And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, **Behold, a sower went forth to sow;** {4} **And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side,** and the fowls came and devoured them up: {5} **Some fell upon stony places,** where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: {6} And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. {7} And **some fell among thorns;** and the thorns sprung up, and choked them: {8} But **other fell into good ground,** and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. {9} Who hath ears to hear, let him hear." (Mat 13:18-23) "**Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.** {19} When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed **by the way side.** {20} But he that received **the seed into stony places,** the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; {21} Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. {22} He also that received **seed among the thorns** is he that **heareth the word;** and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. {23} But he that received seed into **the good ground is he that heareth the word,** and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."