

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit



Galatians 5:22-23

- The contrast between works and fruit is very important.
 - The New Testament speaks of several different kinds of “fruit”: People won to Christ (Rom. 1:13), holy living (Rom. 6:22); gifts brought to God (Rom. 15:26-28), good works (Col. 1:10), and praise (Heb. 13:15).
 - It is important we distinguish the gift of the Spirit, which is salvation (Acts 2:38; 11:17), and the gifts of the Spirit, which have to do with service (1 Cor. 12), from the graces of the Spirit which relate to Christian character.
 - Have you ever taken a bite from a beautiful looking apple only to be disappointed by its flavor?
 - The Christian believer is to walk bearing God’s nature a life that is marked by the Fruit of the Spirit.
 - The fruit that is produced in the believer is the Fruit of the Spirit.
 - A genuine believer stands before God approved and acceptable.
 - Does this mean then, that the believer has no restraint upon his life and behavior – that he is free to live like he wants?
 - Only the Holy Spirit can produce the fruit of the Spirit and not by our own efforts.
 - The believer is to walk bearing God’s nature (v. 22-23).
- The word “fruit” is singular, not plural. The characteristics that God wants in our lives are seen in the nine fold fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.