

**A Study of the Parables of our Lord; Session # 12 – “Bearing Fruit with Patience”,
presented by Pastor Paul Rendall, on May 15th, 2022,
in the Adult Sunday School Class.**

Matthew 13: 22 & 23 – “Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.” “But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

Luke 8: 14 & 15 – “Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.” “But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

1. We must learn to sow to the Spirit, and not to the flesh in order to bear fruit to God.

I have given you a Definition of Sowing to the Spirit – To sow to the Spirit is you, the Christian, taking a continual interest in your cultivating good and right spiritual thoughts, in your mind and heart, first; and then in your actions, deeds, and good works, to bring forth good fruit unto God and men. People can say of you: He is a good man. She is a good woman.

Galatians 5: 16-18 – “I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” “For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.” “But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law.”

2. What does it mean for a Christian to walk in the Spirit?

When a true Christian consciously seeks to walk in the Spirit, they are consciously seeking to do the right and good things that the Spirit will continually be showing them that they should be doing according to the Word of God. The true Christian will engage in the spiritual battle with his own flesh, put to death its deeds, and will seek to cultivate the fruit of the Spirit in his thoughts, words and deeds.

Galatians 5: 22-26 – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” “Against such there is no law.” “And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.” “If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.” “Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.”

3. We begin to bear fruit unto God when we sow to the Spirit in terms of our studying to bring forth right attitudes and good and holy ways of living our life before God and men. We bring forth love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and self-control. There is no law against these good things, and indeed the fruit of these good and righteous motions in the Spirit, in our hearts, will always lead to our bearing good fruit in our speech and actions, and thus glorifying God, and being a righteous help to people around us.

Psalms 1: 1-3 – “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.” “He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”

Bearing good fruit comes from our meditating upon the law of the Lord day and night. We will then be like a tree planted by rivers of water, (the waters of the Holy Spirit's working and influence in our life. We will be able to bring forth fruit with patience, and our profession of faith will be established as being genuine in the sight of God and men. Whatever we will go about to do for God will prosper in the spiritual sense of glorifying Him and we will know His blessing us with success in relation to our words and works, which will truly enable us to persevere in our faith, and our works will be established.

4. We must learn to bear fruit with Patience.

Luke 8: 15 – “But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble (or honest) and good heart, keep it (hold it fast) and bear fruit with patience.”

What does it mean to bear fruit with patience? The word “patience” can also be translated – “perseverance”.

Bearing fruit with patience means to bear fruit by persevering in doing what is good and right, by the power of the Holy Spirit and by faith in Christ who has gone before us to show us the way.

Romans 2: 7 – “Eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality.

Also verse 10 – “But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” “For there is no partiality with God.”

A noble heart is a sincere and honest heart; a heart which will receive the word with meekness and gladness and go about to straightforwardly do it and keep it.

A good heart is a heart that loves God for all that He has done for them in Christ, and that person will go about doing good to others in order to bring glory to God and to be able to share the gospel with needy sinners.

J.C. Ryle in his Expository Thoughts on the Gospels says this: “We must carefully remember that this expression (good ground) does not imply that any one's heart is naturally "good," or ever can become so, without the grace of God. The fairest sense of the words is, "an unprejudiced heart, willing to be taught," such as was peculiarly lacking among the Jews in our Lord's time. The Bereans are an illustration of this expression.” Acts 17:11.

How do we account for the fact that some Christians will bear only 30 fold fruit and others will bear 60 or 100 fold?

It can be accounted for by the fact that God places Christians in widely different settings, some more conducive to fruit-bearing than others. And it can be accounted for by how closely each Christian follows their Lord, abiding in Him, and learning to keep His commands. And it will also be affected by how much they persevere in their faith, hope, and love for Him, praying to bear fruit unto Him.

John 15: 7 & 8 – “If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.” “By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.”

