

“CHOSEN TO BEAR FRUIT”

JOHN 15:1-17

TEXT: VERSE 16

INTRO: From before the beginning of the world, God has chosen each and every **BORN AGAIN BELIEVER TO BEAR FRUIT FOR HIS GLORY, FROM THE POINT OF THEIR SALVATION UNTIL THEY SEE THE LORD FACE TO FACE. THREE QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:**

- 1) Are you a Born Again Believer?
- 2) Are you consistently bearing fruit for the Glory of God?
- 3) What is the description of that fruit you are bearing?

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NOTE THE CONTEXT OF JOHN 15:

- 1) Jesus Christ presents Himself as the TRUE VINE and His Father as the HUSBANDMAN (Caretaker). **Jesus is the SOURCE of our fruit bearing and God the Father is the PRODUCER of our fruit bearing. The Father PURGES, STRENGTHENS AND REWARDS** the fruit bearer.
- 2) Jesus Christ speaks of TWO TYPES of Branches on the Vine:
 - Branches that Bear Fruit: Vss. 2,8
 - Those who are Mature Obedient Believers
 - Branches that do not Bear Fruit: Vss. 2,6
 - Those who are Immature Disobedient Believers
- 3) Jesus Christ is making the point that **every TRUE MATURE BELIEVER** will bear Spiritual Fruit to the Glory of God – **Vs. 8**
- 4) Jesus Christ indicates that Spiritual Fruit Bearing is **PROGRESSIVE and INCREASES** with the spiritual maturity of **each believer.**
 - There is Fruit – Vs. 2a
 - There is More Fruit – Vs. 2b
 - There is Much Fruit – Vs. 5
 - There is Lasting Fruit – Vs. 16
- 5) Jesus Christ indicates that **TRUE DISCIPLES** bear Spiritual Fruit – Vs. 8
- 6) Jesus Christ teaches that **EVERY TRUE CHRISTIAN** is CHOSEN to bear Spiritual Fruit, and **NONE IS EXEMPT** – Vs. 16

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QUESTION: WHAT IS SPIRITUAL FRUIT?

A Definition: *“The life of ministry and activity of a true Christian that stems from a vital relationship with Jesus Christ that is produced through obedience and by yielding to the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

A Descriptive Scenario:

- 1) Living the Gospel: **Showing Jesus Christ** (Life Style)
- 2) Sharing the Gospel: **Speaking Jesus Christ** (Personal Evangelism)
- 3) Acting out the Gospel: **Serving Jesus Christ** (Disciple Making)

A Distinctive Process:

- 1) Leading Others to Christ – Romans 1:13-16
- 2) Godly Attitudes – Galatians 5:22,23
- 3) Righteous Behavior – Philippians 1:11
- 4) Praise to God – Hebrews 13:15

A LOOK AT VERSE 16:

I. BELIEVERS ARE CHOSEN AND ORDAINED TO BEAR FRUIT

VS. 16a

A. Chosen to Bear Fruit, not for Salvation

1. Salvation is not the subject of this text.
2. God Does NOT CHOOSE Certain People to Salvation
3. God’s Salvation is Open to All Humanity – Romans 10:13
4. The Holy Spirit convicts all Unbelievers of Sin – John 16:7-11
5. Jesus Saves All Who Respond to the Invitation to Salvation – John 6:37

B. Appointed to Bear Fruit, not to be Fruitless

1. Fruit Bearing is Preordained by God based upon Salvation
-Ephesians 2:8-10
2. Fruit Bearing is Purposed by God for each Believer
 - a. God has a Special Plan for All Believers – Ephesians 2:8
 - b. God Equips All Christians to Bear Fruit – Ephesians 4:7-16
3. Fruit Bearing is Rewarded by God for All Believers
-1 Corinthians 3:11-15

ILLUSTRATION:

II. BELIEVERS ARE TO GO AND BEAR FRUIT – VS. 16

- A. To GO Throughout Life
-From the point of Salvation until seeing the Lord Face to Face
- B. To GO to Where Fruit can be Produced
- C. To GO and Bear Lasting Fruit
 1. A Life-Long Testimony
 2. An Eternal Value

ILLUSTRATION:

III. BELIEVERS ARE TO PRAY AND GET ANSWERS FOR HOW TO BEAR FRUIT – VS. 16 c

NOTE: **This statement is given in the context of FRUIT BEARING!**

- A. Believers are to Pray to Seek God's Direction in Fruit Bearing
- B. Believers WILL Receive God's Direction in Fruit Bearing

ILLUSTRATION:

THREE BIBLICAL CONDITIONS OF SPIRITUAL FRUIT BEARING

- 1) Personal Spiritual Cleansing – Vss. 2,3
- 2) Personal Spiritual Abiding – Vs. 4
- 3) Personal Spiritual Obeying – Vss. 10,12

LESSON AND APPLICATION

- 1) Make Certain that YOU ARE ON THE VINE through Salvation.
- 2) Examine YOUR FRUIT BEARING Today.
 - Is is Regular?
 - Is it Productive?
 - Is it Lasting?
 - Is it God-Honoring?