

The Fruit of the Spirit Part 1

“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”

(Galatians 5:22-23 KJV)

Character, attitude and actions matter lot in our life and walk with God, and in our ministry unto him. Apostle Paul was speaking to the Galatians to walk in the Spirit and not to fulfill the lust of the flesh, ***“16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.”*** (Galatians 5:16 KJV) The aim of Paul was to teach the Galatians, and to teach us today, that we should not walk after the flesh and do the sinful things that we should not do, which is against the Spirit of God. Doing the sinful things of the flesh will bring to us the condemnation of the law of God; for those who break His Word and do the sinful things that God prohibited us to do. The flesh that we carry in our body is in continuous struggle with the Spirit of God that we received after we received Christ. ***“17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.”*** (Galatians 5:17-18 KJV) After we received Christ in our lives, we were sealed by the Spirit of God as we read here, ***“13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,”*** (Ephesians 1:13 KJV) ***“21 Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; 22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”*** (2 Corinthians 1:21-22 KJV) The Spirit of God will be working in us to lead us not to do the work of the flesh that our sinful nature dictates on us and which are as the following: ***“19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, 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.”*** (Galatians 5:19-21 KJV) But the Spirit of God will work on us to reproduce the fruit of the Spirit in the following way:

As we believe in Christ and got sealed with the Holy Spirit, that will work in our lives as we cooperate and submit our lives unto Him; then the Holy Spirit will change our characters and attitudes by developing in us the fruit of the Holy Spirit that give us the same character and personality of Jesus.

The fruit of the Holy Spirit that will appear in our lives are the following: ***“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”*** (Galatians 5:22-23 KJV) ***These fruit will start to change your life and make you a different person and will show such fruit and characters in your personality.***

The Word of God gives eternal life to those who receive and start to believe in Jesus. Therefore as you receive God's Word and start to believe and follow Jesus then you are saved and have eternal life and the Word of God will start to grow in your heart and His presence will be manifested in your life. These manifestations can be outlined in two folds:

A. The Springing of new direction, new hope, desire and experiences in life that you never have before and in which you will have the new plan of God that he has for you that you need to go through.

B. The changing or renewing of your negative attitudes and characters bringing you to spiritual maturation determined by the manifestation of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. ***Spiritual maturation is not measured by how many years that you have Jesus in your life, or the time you are born again, but how much of the fruit of the Holy Spirit are present in your life; its quantity and the various intensity of each of these fruit.*** Let us now go through these various fruit and discuss them.

1. Love: This fruit of the Holy Spirit will help you to start to love. You will start to love people around you, people who are with you in your family, your neighbor, officemate and colleagues. ***You will give more love towards them and you will have the desire and the burden to share with them the new beautiful life that you have in Jesus. You will be moved by love to share with them the Word of God to bring the salvation of God to them.*** Love will be directed to God and directed to your neighbor and to yourself as we conclude of what Jesus had said here: ***“37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”*** (Matthew 22:37-39 KJV) Here Jesus commanded that any person needs to love God, to love his neighbor and to love himself. ***Loving God will require from you to be obedient to God's Word, to His command, to do His will and to finish His work.*** Love as one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit will work on you in order that your selfishness will gradually be replaced by loving your neighbor as yourself. ***Loving your neighbor will come true when you will do what the Word of God dictates on you to do for him and to abstain from any sinful act against your neighbors as we read here: “8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. 9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”*** (Romans 13:8-10 KJV)

When Jesus said, ***“Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself”***, that means also that you need to love yourself by taking care of your body that God gave to you to serve Him; that you need to eat and drink and take the nourishment needed to your body to function well, and to have enough rest and sleep so you will be able to do the required work that God wants from you to do.

The fruit of love that the Holy Spirit start to reproduce in our lives and personality will be changing us in a way that will perfect us and we will be able and in comfortable way to go along the Word of God and the teaching of Jesus that dictates on us the following: ***“43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward***

have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:43-48 KJV)

When you yield in such a way to the work of the Holy Spirit and start to reproduce the fruit of the Holy Spirit then much of the work of the flesh will be disappearing from your life like idolatry because you start to love God, and so you will throw away and move away from your idols. You will stop doing adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, murders and witchcraft because you don't want to harm your neighbors. Because the love of God inside you, then you will be able to overcome hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, anger, fight, envying, and revelling because you are called to love your neighbor and not to go to fight with him; but instead to forgive him. Because the love of God, you will stop drunkenness and eating too much because you are called to love yourself by caring for your body. So the love of God inside you will ultimately grow in such a way that finally will enable you to overcome all the works of the flesh that God ordained for you to totally avoid.

2. Joy: * The joy that you will have from the Holy Spirit will give you the real happiness for the new eternal life that you have in Christ Jesus. You will never have the fear of death and this is the first reason of your true joy. * Day after day you will see life differently. Before you don't feel the true presence of God but now you are sure that God is watching over you. Your fears have disappeared, and you will give no attention to small annoying things in comparison to the true imperishable riches you have in Jesus. *“2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.” (1 John 1:2-4 KJV)* The joy of having eternal life and a place in Heaven is the drive for us to go forward and treading over trials and hardship of life and bearing persecution and the hurts and the harms of the enemy. The Holy Spirit will help you to consider the trials and the hardships that you are passing in Christ Jesus as joy, *“2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” (James 1:2-4 KJV)* The joy that you have as the fruit of the Spirit with the explanation of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit will show you the value of the various troubles that you are passing through and what blessings can be added to you from such, and that will motivate you with joy to continue in serving God inspite of all the troubles that you are meeting on the way, especially as we know that our names are written in Heaven as Jesus told us, *“20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20 KJV)* With all such promises then you are excited and motivated to continue to serve God, and willing to continue to bear, and forgive and joyfully avoid revenging or fighting back with those who troubles you knowing that your name is written in Heaven.

3. Peace: The Holy Spirit will give you the fruit of peace, and you will experience a calm feeling. No more that you will be controlled with fear and anxiety as you are aware that your name is written in the book of life and you have a place in Heaven. No more that you will be anxious about what to do, for you know that God is with you and

he is just a prayer far away. Paul instructed the Philippians with the following: *“4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:4-7 KJV)* Your prayer to God as you present your request and petition unto Him, will finally bring the peace of God that will guard your heart and mind, and help you to keep focus inspite of all the troubles that you are passing through that try to distract you and confuse you.

* When you have the peace of God, your running towards many directions will be reduced and finally ended and will be replaced by your drawing towards God. * The fire and the terror in your heart will be extinguished, and the battle of evil thoughts of hatred, anger and revenge will vanish and be replaced by brotherly kindness, and peace will flow from your heart to the people around you. * Many of your quarrels and fights will be stopped. You will start to reconcile with many of the people whom you have broken relationships. You will avoid quarrels and your love will extend even towards your enemy. You will endeavor to make peace with everyone. *“18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.” (Romans 12:18 KJV)* *“11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.” (2 Corinthians 13:11 KJV)*

4. longsuffering: This fruit of the Holy Spirit will make you willing to suffer for God, and to be patient, waiting upon God until He will come and relief you and move you out from your troubles and take you to a better situation in life. In your previous life you are the one who plan to do all the tasks, and you are the one to choose for yourself what you like. But in your new life in Jesus, God is the one who plans for you and He will direct you in what to do. * Your new style will be to ask God first for any decision to make and to wait for His answer. * In your previous life you used to do what you want, but now in the new life in Christ, you have no choice but to follow Christ and pass through the narrow gate that Christ had ordained for you to pass through as He commanded, *“13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Matthew 7:13-14 KJV)* There is for each and every one of us who follow Christ a plan and a scenario that need to go through and we cannot change it, therefore we need to use the fruit of the longsuffering to achieve that. Jesus said to Peter the way that he is going to die for Christ, *“18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. 19 This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.” (John 21:18-19 KJV)* He told him that when he was young he was going where he wish, but now when he is old, he needed to go to the place that he does not like to go, but he has no choice because he needed to follow God, as Jesus told him, *“Follow me.”* The fruit of the longsuffering would enable us to follow Christ and bear the troubles that He allows us to pass through, knowing that such is the plan of God for us and the narrow gate that he ordained for us to pass through. Paul through the fruit of the longsuffering was enabled to bear the following as He testified, *“24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I*

*suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. 28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?" (2 Corinthians 11:24-29 KJV) * In the same way this fruit of the Holy Spirit, the longsuffering, will enable us to pass through the trials that accompanied the life for Christ and the ministry that He entrusted to us to do. * Through the fruit of the longsuffering you can wait for God and bear until He will come and relieve you and take you out from the suffering that you are passing through. Therefore meanwhile as you are passing through hardships and troubles your prayer and your crying to God will be of great aid and comfort to you as David testified how God turned to him and listened to his cry and came to aid him as he waited upon God, "1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings." (Psalm 40:1-2 KJV)*

My dear and beloved: Come now to the Lord and check yourself and allow the Holy Spirit to examine you and see how much of the work of the flesh are spreading in your life that you need to repent of, and how much fruit of the Holy Spirit that you are developing to combat the work of the flesh.

Get a piece of paper and write down all the work of the flesh that you need to get rid from your life. Write down also what you are lacking of the fruit of the Spirit that needed to appear in your life to combat that work of the flesh and to show the character and the personality of Jesus in your life.

Reflect on the Word of God and see how you can apply what you learned in this message to combat your sins, the trials that you are passing through and your enemies who are fighting against you.

Let us prayer ...

My Prayer: *Father God in Heaven, I come to you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sin to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for the eternal life and the non perishable riches that I have in Heaven. Lord thank you for your Word that you sent to me to remind me of your will in my life and your concern about me to grow, to be mature and to have the character and the attitude of Jesus in my life.*

Confess and renounce your sins now to God. Confess the work of the flesh in your life. Renounce the sin of adultery, fornication, idol worship, witchcraft, hatred, anger, fight, division, envy, jealousy, drinking alcohol. Confess your lack of love, selfishness, non willingness to sacrifice and serve God. Confess your greed and coveting. Confess your non forgiveness towards those who hurt you. Renounce your non willingness to suffer for Christ and your non willingness to be patience and bear through trials and struggles. Confess your lack of prayer and non reading to God's Word. Lord forgive me, I confess and renounce the following sins _____.

Lord I commit myself to your Word and the instructions that I received in this message. Lord I commit myself to get rid of the following work of the flesh in my life _____.

Lord I commit myself to work with you and allow the Holy Spirit to reproduce love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance, that people will see the character and the attitude of Jesus in my life.

Lord I ask you to help me and aid me to take me out from the following trial and hardship in my life _____. Lord I ask you to help me to deal according to your ways with the following enemies _____.

Lord thank you for my brethren who committed their lives unto you. Lord bless them and make them grow more, and let more fruit of the Spirit manifested in their lives. Lord protect them and provide all their needs, and use them to go on and serve you and do the work of yours. Lord refill them with the Holy Spirit and give them the spiritual gift that they need in their lives to go and serve you.

Lord bless us as a church and, and help us to implement the teaching that we received in this message. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit, and enable us to go and evangelize, reaching new people, making new disciples, training more workers, and to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God'. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

The Fruit Of The Spirit Part 1. Galatians 5:16-23. Ephesians 1:13. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22. Matthew 22:37-39. Romans 13:8-10. Matthew 5:43-48. 1 John 1:2-4. James 1:2-4. Luke 10:20. Philippians 4:4-7. Romans 12:18. 2 Corinthians 13:11. Matthew 7:13-14. John 21:18-19. 2 Corinthians 11:24-29. Psalm 40:1-2.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

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