

The Fruit of the Spirit

(02/04/17)

Rom 7:4- We are to bring forth fruit unto God

I. **Webster's 1828- FRUIT**, *noun* [Latin fructus. The Latin word is the participle of fruor, contracted from frugor, or frucor, to use, to take the profit of.]

1. In a general sense, whatever the earth produces for the nourishment of animals, or for clothing or profit. Among the fruits of the earth are included not only corn of all kinds, but grass, cotton, flax, grapes and all cultivated plants. In this comprehensive sense, the word is generally used in the plural.
2. In a more limited sense, the produce of a tree or other plant; the last production for the propagation or multiplication of its kind; the seed of plants, or the part that contains the seeds; as wheat, rye, oats, apples, quinces, pears, cherries, acorns, melons, etc.
3. In botany, the seed of a plant, or the seed with the pericarp.
4. Production; that which is produced.

The *fruit* of the spirit is in all goodness, and righteousness, and truth. [Ephesians 5:9](#).

5. The produce of animals; offspring; young; as the *fruit* of the womb, of the loins, of the body.

6. Effect or consequence.

They shall eat the *fruit* of their doings. [Isaiah 3:10](#).

7. Advantage; profit; good derived.

What *fruit* had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? [Romans 6:21](#).

8. Production, effect or consequence; in an ill sense; as the fruits of sin; the fruits of intemperance.

FRUIT, *verb intransitive* To produce *fruit* [Not well authorized.]

A) Etymology

[fruit \(n.\)](#) 

late 12c., "any vegetable product useful to humans or animals," from Old French fruit "fruit, fruit eaten as dessert; harvest; virtuous action" (12c.), from Latin fructus "an enjoyment, delight, satisfaction; proceeds, produce, fruit, crops," from frug-, stem of frui "to use, enjoy," from suffixed form of PIE *bhrug- "agricultural produce," also "to enjoy" (see [brook](#) (v.)). The Latin word also is the source of Spanish fruto, Italian frutto, German Frucht, Swedish frukt-

Originally in English meaning all products of the soil (vegetables, nuts, grain, acorns); modern narrower sense is from early 13c. Also "income from agricultural produce, revenue or profits

from the soil" (mid-14c.), hence, "profit," the classical sense preserved in fruits of (one's) labor. Meaning "offspring, progeny, child" is from mid-13c.; that of "any consequence, outcome, or result" is from late 14c. Meaning "odd person, eccentric" is from 1910; that of "male homosexual" is from 1935, underworld slang. The term also is noted in 1931 as tramp slang for "a girl or woman willing to oblige," probably from the fact of being "easy picking." Fruit salad recorded from 1861; fruit-cocktail from 1900; fruit-bat by 1869.

B) Hebrew *parah* is root and means "increase" and the Greek *karpos* comes from *harpazo/hairo* meaning to "pluck up from among"

1. **Psa 58:11 & Psa 127:3**- Translated as "reward"

C) **Gen 1:11**- 1st use- God set a law in order that fruit is produced after his own kind, whose seed is in itself upon the earth

1. **Gal 6:7**- Reap what you sow is the 1st law of nature set forth in the bible

i. **Gen 1:28**- Be fruitful and multiply can only be "after his kind"

a) **Gen 5:1-3**- Adam brings forth fruit after his (fallen) kind

b) **Rom 5:12**- All under sin in the likeness of Adam

2. This simple law mandates that any righteous or acceptable work must come from and by the Lord Jesus Christ

i. **James 1:17-18**- All good things come from above

ii. **Eph 2:10**- His workmanship

3. **2 Cor 5:17**- This simple law mandates a "new creature"

4. **Gen 4:1-7**- This law required the rejection of Cain's offering

i. "Ground & earth" are from the same root as "Adam & blood"

5. **Job 14:4**- We can see so plainly this law in nature, but struggle mightily to see it in our own selves

i. **Gen 4:7**- If you wanna do it your way and offer God the fruit of your labors for salvation, then complete mastery of sin is the requirement; do that and you will be acceptable unto God

a) **Rom 10:5**- Man that is to live by the Law must perform all the Law

1) **Rom 3:19-20**- This type fruit is declared impossible and unacceptable to a righteous God

II. **Gen 17:1-8**- "I will make thee fruitful"

A) This is the very thing that the law of **Gen 1:11** makes mandatory, and is shown by God throughout the scriptures

1. Consider Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Hannah, Elizabeth, etc. and their "unfruitfulness"

B) **Ezek 36:25-27**- This is the New Covenant and was being taught Abram from the beginning

1. **Gen 12:1**- "I will....", "I will....", "I will....", "I will...."

2. **Ezek 36:22-38**- "I will..." 17x's here

C) **Ezek 36:27**- "Cause"- also "made, yielding, wrought, execute, perform"

1. **Gen 1:7**- God “made the firmament”
2. **Gen 1:11**- “Fruit tree yielding fruit”
3. **Job 12:9**- “Hand of the Lord wrought this”
4. **Ex 12:2**- “I will execute judgment”
5. **Deut 4:13**- “Israel to perform the Law” under Old Covenant

III. **Luke 6:43-49**- A tree is known by its fruit

A) **Gal 5:17-26**- The works of the flesh -vs- the fruit of the Spirit

1. So then the source of a thing may be identified as to whether it is of the flesh or the Spirit by the fruit produced
2. **Luke 6:45**- “A good man”
 - i. **Rom 3:12**- There is none good
 - ii. **Ecc 7:20**- None that doeth good and sinneth not
3. **Psa 37:23**- The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord
 - i. **Rom 3:10**-”They are ALL gone out of the way”
 - ii. **Jer 16:11-12**- Man refuses to walk in the way of God
4. **Eph 5:8-12**- Fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth
 - a) **Rom 3:10**- There are none righteous
 - b) **Isa 64:6-7**- All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags
5. **Matt 12:33-37**- A good man brings forth good out of the treasures of the heart
 - i. **Jer 17:9**- Heart is incurable
 - ii. **Prov 20:9-11**- “Who can say **I** have made my heart clean”
 - iii. **Mark 7:20-23**- The 13 evil things proceeding from man’s heart

B) **2 Pet 1:1-8**- His divine power hath given to us all things that pertain to life and power, so we can bear fruit in Him (in accordance with His law of **Gen 1:11**)

1. **Ezek 36:25-28**- This is the work of Christ through the New Covenant
 - i. **2 Cor 5:17**- New creatures in Christ
 - a) **Tit 3:8 & 14**- The new creature can bring forth fruit after its kind (in Christ)
 - b) **Rom 6:20-22**- As servants of God fruit can be produced through us
 - c) **Phil 1:8-11**- Being filled with fruits of righteousness which are **BY CHRIST**
 - d) **Col 1:3-11**- The gospel brings forth fruit in us
 - e) **James 3:10-18**- The wisdom that produces fruit comes from above (Spirit)
 - 1) **1 Cor 2:9-14**- Spirit of God -vs- spirit of the world
2. **2 Tim 2:6**- The Husbandman (God) which laboreth must be first partaker of the fruits

- i. **Deut 26:1-5 & 18-19**- All firstfruits are to be given to God since He is the husbandman bringing forth the fruit (**Ex 22:29-30**)
 - a) **Heb 13:15-16**- God to be given the “fruit of the lips” in praise and thanksgiving, this ought to come first in all things
- ii. **John 15:1-17**- The Husbandman (God the Father) and the Vine (Jesus Christ) and the branches (His body)
 - a) This is a beautiful picture of how the Lord works to bring forth fruit in His Son, and one that can be easily understood
 - b) “Cast forth as a branch” does not equal “cut off from being a son”
 - 1) In the analogy, the job of bringing forth fruit in Him is the subject. Any branch that doesn’t bring forth fruit is not worthy to receive any more nutrition nor supply from the vine and it cut off from fruit bearing
 - 1. **1 Cor 3:10-16**- Works (fruit bearing) tried by fire
 - c) **John 15:5**- This is the heart of this entire study (it does not say “you can do only a little)
 - d) Notice the progression: “fruit,” “more fruit,” and “fruit that remains”

IV. Unbelief halts the fulfillment of God’s promises

A) **Heb 3:7-19**- Israel did not receive their promise because of unbelief

- 1. **Num 13:1-33**- God gave Israel a sample of the fruit He produces according to His promise to them, and yet Israel did not believe nor trust God to continue to accomplish His promises
 - i. **Heb 4:1-11**- This is exactly what we do today, when we receive salvation and the peace that comes with it, yet we refuse to believe that God our Father will continue to bring forth the fruit in us as He promised
 - ii. **Lev 26:3-13**- “If ye walk in my statutes.....” then God would have brought forth the fruit He promised from above
 - a) **Lev 26:14-39**- “But if ye will not hearken unto Me.....” then a series of chastisements began which perfectly mirror the experience of the church over the last 2000 years
 - 1) **Lev 26:40-46**- Yet any man in Christ who will be turned by the chastisement of the Lord will receive promises of the covenant in full fruition
 - iii. **Hag 1:10**- Heaven stayed from dew, so earth stayed from fruit
 - a) **Zech 8:12**- Dew given and then comes the fruit
 - iv. **Deut 7:12-16**- Follow the Lord and be delivered from the snare
 - a) **Eph 6:12**- We wrestle against spiritual wickedness
 - b) **1 Tim 4:1-2**- Seducing spirits and doctrines of devils

- 1) **2 Tim 2:24-26**- The snares today are laid by the devil in the form of false doctrines and teachings. The man that depends on his own intelligence or the intelligence of men rather than allowing God's Spirit to lead him in the word is doomed to be caught in these snares, and only God can deliver them.
 1. **Job 18:6-16**- When a man turns from the light, he is caught in a snare and withers from the roots
 2. **Psa 91:1-5**- The Lord can deliver from the snare of the fowler
 3. **Psa 119:105-112**- The wicked have laid a snare for me, yet I will not depart from thy precepts
 4. **Prov 29:25**- Fear is a snare, but trust in the Lord and be safe
- V. **Prov 8:19-21**-The fruit which God has always desired is faith
 - A) **Heb 11:1 & 6**- Faith is the substance, and without faith it is impossible to please God
 1. **Heb 4:2**- Israel's lack of faith
 2. **Matt 17:19-20**- If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed
 3. **Matt 21:33-43**- KOG taken from Israel and given to another (BOC) because of unbelief
 - B) **Mark 4:14**- Sower soweth the word
 1. **Rom 10:17**- Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God
 - i. **Gen 1:11**- If it is the word that is sown and planted in faith, then the fruit produced must be after its own kind, thus faith in the believer (dirt)
 - ii. Every believer is like a transplant; lifted out of death and planted in newness of life in order that you might produce that which comes from the Lord
 - a) **Isa 5:1-7**- This is the example of Israel planted in His land
 - 1) **Ezek 17:1-6**- Israel was taken out of Egypt and planted by the waters, but brought forth corrupt fruit (unbelief)
 1. **Psa 1:1-3**- Delight in His word and be like a tree planted by the waters
 1. **2 Cor 9:8-10**- The Lord will water and nurture you and bring forth the fruit He desires in you
 - VI. **Eph 2:8-10**- The fruit is God's doing and it is by grace through faith that any fruit is brought forth, both for initial fruit of new birth (blade) and also for the fruit of His work in us (ear) and that which works out of us (corn)
 - A) **Mark 4:26-29**- Stages of growth in KOG
 1. **1 John 2:12-14**- Little children, young men, and fathers
 - VII. Continue study with the various forms of this one fruit in Christ