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Christian Fruit-Bearing

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CHRISTIAN FRUIT-BEARING

INT.

Gospel Preaching presents a unique situation.

1. Deals with 2 worlds: here & hereafter.
2. Deals with Spr. things. Col. 3:1-4.
3. Presupposes YOU care about Spr. things!!!
4. Presupposes YOU want to be happy in THIS.
5. Presupposes YOU want to be with Jesus in next world. John 14:1-3.
6. Infers there is a preparation-course.
7. Infers you want to know about this course

I * JOHN 15:1-12 DESCRIBES LORD'S COURSE FOR YOU

A. Jesus sets the setting: God is the Vinyard-owner. Jesus, the Vine. Christians the branches. V. 1-2. *CWP!*

1. Non-bearing branch. Eliminated!!!! *Y6*
2. Fruit-bearers are "purged" or pruned so will bear more fruit. Heb. 12:5-11*

Idea: To cleanse: Free of impurity or free vine of dead branches. New growth

B. V. 4-6. Life and fruit-bearing tied directly to CONTACT with Jesus.*

1. Christian does not bear much fruit when Jesus not ABIDING in him.

Eph. 3:17

- a. Jesus does not abide in heart of Christian who does not READ. R10:17
- b. Jesus does not abide in heart of Christian who attends few services. Heb. 10:25. Groups on retreats???
- c. Jesus abides most in those whose lives are ACTIVE in some good work.

Ill. 10 of 31 Parables deal with "doing"!!!
33%. 1. Good Samaritan. 2. Barren fig tree
3. Laborers (penny). 4. Two sons. 5. Talents.
6. Rich fool (do nothing). 7. Dives-Lazarus.
8. Pounds. 9. Vinyard. 10. Vine & branches.

C. V. 8. Fruit-bearing Glorifies God and proves one's discipleship to Jesus.

1. GALATIANS 5:22-26* Defines the fruit.

- a. LOVE: Agape=Four ideas involved.
Love you IF you love me.
Love you if DON'T love me.
Love you when NOT lovable. J.3:16.
Love you because of what I AM, more than because of what you are.

Ill. Mary Sanders had a love which would not let Herman go. Promised! Going to keep word. Did. to the death! Deep love.

- 7-9-73 2R
- b. JOY: Emotion excited by expectation of something good to come. Optimistic!!
Jesus???
- c. PEACE: Peacemaker! not peacekeeper.
Not peace at any price! M. 5:9.
Jesus??
- d. LONGSUFFERING: Tolerant of others.
Exercises great self-restraint.
Long-tempered! Jesus???

III. (Bill Vernon) *Bro. in adultery. Gal. 6:1-2. Tried.*

- e. GENTLENESS: Goodness and kindness of heart
III. *Elders: Move slowly. In love, move surely.*
- f. GOODNESS: Morally honorable. Pleasing to God, because God's qualities are in us.
Matt. 5:48. II Tim. 3:16-17.

- III. *Bill not trying.*
- g. FAITH: Acceptance of Jesus as Son of God, co-joined with obedience to His will--no matter how exacting!

III. *Sobby Martin - Problems with family costly! yours?*

CONCLUSION: Those Branches who conscious^{ly} striving to bear fruit and are doing so, are doing so because have the promised DIVINE NATURE. II Pet. 1:2-4.

INV: One OUT OF CHRIST "DOES NOT" HAVE THE desired Divine-Nature. Not obedient. Acts 16:31. Lk. 13:3. Acts 2:38.

All Fruit-bearing Christians exhibit the identifiable Divine-nature. No question. Any QUESTION about YOUR stand???

I John 1:9.

IDENTIFY.