

Fruit of the Spirit

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December 13, 2020
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Introduction

1. Galatians 5:22-23
2. The tension between the lust of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit is real verse 15ff
3. The fruit of the Spirit is God given qualities given to those who obey, 2 Peter 1:3-11
4. The fruit of the Spirit involves the way people are to live.
5. There are nine characteristics of this singular fruit, they can be divided into three groups.
They are:

II Discussion

1. There are three characteristics that look up to God
 1. There is love
 1. God is the object of our love Matthew 22:34-40; 1 John 4:19
 2. Love motivates us to obey God 1 John 5:3; John 14:15
 3. Love also motivates us to faithfully serve God 1 Corinthians 13:1-3
 2. There is joy
 1. Salvation brings joy Acts 2:46; 8:8, 39; 16:34
 2. We are to rejoice in the Lord Philippians 4:4; Matthew 25:21
 3. The hope of eternal salvation brings joy unspeakable 1 Peter 1:8
 3. There is peace
 1. Salvation brings peace Romans 5:1
 2. Those who have peace with God obtain a peace that passes all understanding Philippians 4:7; Colossians 3:15
 3. Peace is not at the mercy of external circumstances Acts 7, 16
2. There are three characteristics that look outward toward others
 1. There is long-suffering
 1. In trying to reach and teach others 2 Timothy 4:2
 2. In attempting to get along with ill-tempered members of the church Ephesians 4:31-32
 3. In resisting temptation Hebrews 12:3-4
 2. There is gentleness (kindness)
 1. Long-suffering endures wrong; kindness overcomes it Romans 12:20-21
 2. God's people must be kind Ephesians 4:31-32
 3. There is goodness
 1. Meaning "uprightness of heart and life" Thayer
 2. God's people are to do good Galatians 6:10
3. there are three characteristics that look inward to self
 1. Faith (faithfulness)
 1. This means that we are to be reliable in all that we do Ephesians 6:3-4; Colossians 4:1, 3; 3:22ff
 2. They continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine Acts 2:42
 3. We are to continue steadfast 1 Corinthians 15:58
 2. Meekness (strength under control)
 1. The meek are submissive to God's will James 4:6
 2. The meek are teachable James 1:21
 3. The meek are considerate of others Ephesians 4:2
 3. Temperance (self-control)
 1. This would be contrast to the works of the flesh Galatians 5:19-21
 2. The body must be controlled 1 Corinthians 9:27
 3. The mind must be controlled 2 Corinthians 10:5

III Conclusion

1. If the Holy Spirit guides one's life Romans 8:14 by the Word of God Colossians 3:16, then one will produce the Fruit of the Spirit
2. One is free to produce the Fruit of the Spirit all they want and need to
3. Are you producing the Fruit of the Spirit?
4. Have you in the past produced the Fruit of the Spirit and are no longer?
5. Come and get to work

Source: Sermon preached in 1981; 1991; Truth for today Commentary on Galatians