

Fruit – Pt 2 Believers are to bear good fruit

This our second teaching on the subject of fruit. Last week we established three points – (1) There are good trees and corrupt trees, (2) by their fruits you will know them, and (3) Israel had become the vine of Sodom bearing evil fruit. This week we establish – (1) Seed that falls on good ground hears the word, understands it and bears good fruit, (2) we are to bring forth fruit unto God, and (3) we are to go and bring forth fruit that remains.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Seed that falls on good ground hears the word, understands it – bears good fruit.

“But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it ; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty” (Matt.13: 23), c.f. Mk.4: 20 – “And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit”

Hear, understand and receive the word of God – you will bear good fruit.

2. We are to bring forth fruit unto God.

“Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God” (Rom.7: 4).

3. We are to go and bring forth fruit that remains.

“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you” (Jn.15: 16).

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life.

When Karen and I learnt of the truth of the English text of the 1611 Authorised Bible being holy scripture during our last year at Bible college we subsequently met Dr. Dennis Spackman – a GP and contender for the faith. Dennis had written a book titled – “The Certainty of the words of truth”. In stealth like conditions Karen and I placed a copy of the book in each of our fellow students’ lockers. It got back to our Dean, and I was called into his office to explain our actions. BCNZ outwardly encouraged students to be challenged in their beliefs – but then told us they wanted to control the flow of literature to students.

Question to think about.

- i) What is good fruit?
- ii) Did the actions of BCNZ display good fruit that will remain?

Our answer from the scriptures.

i) Good fruit is –

- * every good work – Col 1:10, “fruits meet for repentance” – Matt 3: 8, and
- * fruit of the Spirit – “love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance” Gal 5:22 & 23, and
- * fruits of righteousness – Phil.1: 11, and “fruit unto holiness” (Rom.6: 22).

ii) NO – fruit “of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth” (Eph.5: 9).

When you reflect on your actions to establish whether you bear good fruit or not, remember that good fruit that remains is born in goodness, truth and righteousness.