

THE PURPOSE OF HIS CALLING



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Introduction

Romans 8:28 What is the purpose that we have been called to where all Things work together for good?

Psalms 1:1-3 The one who delights in the law of the Lord will be like a tree planted by the water and will prosper in everything.

There are two laws: The law of sin and death, and the law of life in Christ Jesus.

***Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. **2** For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*

***2 Corinthians 3:6** Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*

The law of sin and death kills! It is also called the ministration of death **2 Corinthians 3:7**, and the ministration of condemnation. **2 Corinthians 3:9** It has been done away with. **2 Corinthians 3:11**. It is based on the law of Moses and operating in it will cause you to be spiritually blind. **2 Corinthians 3:14-15** It could not set them free under the Old Covenant, and it will not set you free now.

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus gives life. It is called the ministration of the Spirit, and the ministration of righteousness. **2 Corinthians 3:8,9** The Spirit removes the veil that keeps you from seeing spiritual truth **2 Corinthians 3:16-18** and reveals your true identity.

The war is over between man and God.

Psalms 40:1-2

Hebrews 10:14-17

Or is it?

Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage **again** to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

There are two types of fear. One is rooted in love, and the other is rooted in torment.

- **The spirit of fear** that produces bondage is caused by intimidation that comes from the adversary. It produces torment because it is based on obligation, accusation, and punishment. It is not based on a relationship of love, but of servitude. A servant could never call the master of the house abba.
- **The Spirit of Adoption** is rooted in relationship. It comes from the word reverence which combines fear with love, affection and trust [like that between a father and his children.] Torment is never apart of this kind of fear. Before we can really understand what it means to fear God, we first have to understand the kind of love that He has for us.

Galatians 4:22-31 son of bondwoman won't inherit same as son of freewoman

Galatians 4:29 Cast out bondwoman. We need to get rid of all of our law-thinking!

Mixing law with grace puts Christians in a position that keeps them from experiencing true freedom. Even Jesus said, "I would that you were hot **[totally depending on grace]** or cold **[totally depending on the law]** but you have become lukewarm and it has placed you in a frustrating position. **Revelations 3:15-16**

Galatians 3:3 You began in Spirit, do you think you can now be perfected by the flesh?

Galatians 2:21 Don't frustrate the grace of God

Galatians 1:6-7 You were called into the grace of Christ, but now you are following a perverted version.

Jesus came to serve us and wants us to walk with him relationally.

Relationship Takes Two

It takes two to make a relationship. We have a common idea that God is almighty, He is great, we need to bow down and honor Him. We need to serve Him and we almost entertain a “slave” mentality. He is up there in the position of glory and honor and we are down here in the lesser position as mere men and servants. We see ourselves walking with God in a “slave” relationship based on obligation rather than walking with Him in a “love” relationship. That is not the way that God intended for us to walk with Him.

Isaiah 29:13 tells us that our “fear of God” is a man made precept. God really wants us to run to him in confidence, not away from Him in fear. God’s agenda is minister to us.

Jesus said that unless you let me wash your feet, you have no part of me.

John 13:4 *He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.*

John 13:5 *After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.*

We find Jesus having the last supper with his disciples. It says He girded himself with a towel. If we were to look at Him physically, we would find Jesus dressed in the manner of a servant. It was in this manner that He washed the feet of His disciples.

John 13:6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

John 13:7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

John 13:8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

John 13:9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head.

When he got to Peter, Peter told him that he would not let him wash his feet. Jesus told him that unless Peter allowed Jesus to serve or minister

to him, Peter would have no part with him. At that, Peter said “Wash it all Jesus. I want it all, don’t stop at my feet.”

Jesus came to minister to us. He came to serve. He did not come to exalt himself above us.

Mark 10:42-45.

***Mark 10:42** But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. 43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: 44 And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. 45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

Luke 22:25-27

Luke 22:25** And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. **26** But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. **27** For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? **is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

Who is greater, the one who sits at the table or the one that serves the table? Which position did Jesus say he was in and which position did he say that we are in? Don’t miss it! Read it carefully!

Life eternal is based on having a relationship with Jesus.

***John 17:3** And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

In **Ephesians 5:30-32** the marriage relationship between a man and woman is compared to the relationship that Christ has with the church. Two opposite parts come together to make one.

We are going to talk about that relationship and how it relates to us in our relationship with Jesus: Two opposite parts come together to make

one. In Genesis chapter one we read that God duplicated His image in man.

Genesis 1:27 *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

It says that woman was created “in” man before she was ever taken out of him. In chapter two, verse 18 it says that man was not created to be alone. He needed a help meet.

Genesis 2:18 *And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.*

According to the Strong’s Concordance, a help meet is the opposite counter part, that validates the other part.

Genesis 2:21 *And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

Because man was created in God’s image, if it was not good for man to be alone, then it is not good for God to be alone.

Ephesians 1:4 *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

Man was created “in God” before he was ever taken out of Him. Picture yourselves in God. We are living out what was established way back then. We were created in Him before we were ever taken out of Him.

Ephesians 5:29 *For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.*

We are “bone of His bones.” Again, picture yourselves being “in God almighty.” We are one with Him. When you have a relationship, the two come together, and together they complete each other. Think about this with God. In **Colossians 2:10**, it says that we are complete in him. But that is only half of the relationship. In Ephesians it says that we bring Him to His fullness.

***Ephesians 1:22** And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, **23** Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*

We are complete in Him, but walking together with Him in our completeness fulfills Him. When we correctly see the position that he created us to fill, and we walk in his provision, he is validated as a good provider!

In a marriage relationship, each part is valuable. No part is more valuable than the other. No part is in bondage to the other. Man is not lifted above the woman, nor the woman lifted above the man. Both parts are valuable, and it takes both parts to make a complete whole.

According to **1 Corinthians 12:12-25**, the body of Christ has many parts. No part is esteemed above the other. Particular care is directed to those parts, which seem to be weak. The body is as strong as its weakest link. We are in the position of weakness and God has provided for us in such a way that we are filled with his strength.

In a marriage relationship, the two come together and they take on a single identity.

***Ephesians 5:31** For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.*

***Genesis 5:2** Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.*

God called “their” name Adam. They became identified as one. God identifies with us in the same manner. Our identity is based on His power and strength and His provision for us.

*Isaiah 40: 26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: **he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.***

A marriage is based on commitment. The marriage is as strong as the commitment that the two parties have for each other. When that commitment or trust is violated, the marriage is in danger.

God is not that way. He is committed to us and nothing can sever His commitment to us.

Hebrews 13:5 says that He will never leave or forsake us. He is always there with us. It is a promise that He has spoken to us that He upholds. It says in **Romans 8:35-39** that nothing can separate us from the love of God! His love is unconditional.

Knowing someone is different than knowing about them. A relationship takes getting to know someone. God wants us to know Him. In Daniel it says that “people who know their God are strong.” Knowing Him makes us strong. But being involved in a relationship means that both parts become involved with knowing each other. God knows our ways. He knows us because He created us.

***Psalms 139:2** Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. **3** Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.*

***Psalms 18:30** As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him... **32** It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.*

We are told to fill our thoughts continually with the goodness of God. **Psalms 77:12** A relationship is only a relationship if that meditation is two sided.

Psalms 139:17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! **18** *If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.*

God's heart is filled with thoughts of you. They are not thoughts of condemnation, but of praise.

We are told to sing and worship God continually. God sings over us as well.

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

God is in love with you!

In a relationship we communicate with each other. We have the same dreams and desires. A relationship will break down if that communication develops a wall. Sometimes we come to a spot that we no longer feel free to communicate. We begin to see each other as "unapproachable." "I can't talk to him about this, because He won't understand." "If He knows what I have done, he will be mad." That attitude begins to break down the communication that holds the relationship together. We have developed that "unapproachable" attitude about God. We think that he can't or won't understand our weaknesses.

God wants us to "run to Him" with everything. **Hebrews 4:12-16** There is nothing that we can't talk to Him about. He understands exactly where we are coming from. God does not want us to do like Adam and Eve did when they fell short. They ran and hid. He does not want us to do that.

Isaiah 45:9 Woe unto him that has a controversy with His maker.

God wants us to talk to him about things we don't understand. It plays into the hands of the enemy if we fail to communicate with God about those things. If you have a question, God wants you to ask Him! He wants to give you an answer.

Isaiah 45:11 Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

As a Christian we are instructed to “Pray without ceasing.” In a relationship, both sides are working together for the good of the whole. The Bible says that “He is continually making intercession for us.” **Hebrews 7:25, Romans 8:26, Psalms 121:4** God says that He never “slumbers or sleeps” because He is continually watching out for us.

The husband is the “savior” and head of the body.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

1 Peter 3:7 Honor the wife as the weaker vessel

Sometimes women don't like to hear that because it makes them feel like they are not as valuable as the man. This is not what the scripture is talking about. The word savior in this scripture means defender. It is in a man's heart to carry the load, to open car doors, to take care of the woman. Caring for the woman is programmed into the man. That is what is in God's heart. He wants to take care of us. He wants to ease the burden from our shoulders. He wants to carry our load!

God wants our relationship with Him to be based on “oneness.”

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. **22** And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: **23** I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Did you know that the world can't believe that Jesus has been sent unless we take on the ownership that we are one with Him. If we don't understand the concept that we are as much one with God as Jesus is one with God, then it will be impossible for the people of the world to understand how much God loves them.

Remember the role of the help- meet. The world has a distorted picture of God. They see him as demanding and judgmental. They see themselves as subservient to Him because we see him that way in our lives! When we begin to see ourselves filled with same glory and honor that Jesus was filled with, when we begin to understand the love relationship what God wants to have with us and the extent of His provision for us, then world will begin to see God as a good provider.

The Vine and its Branches

John 17:23 We are one with Him

Ephesians 5:29-32 We are “bone of His bones.”

God chose not to be alone! He chose us to be His help meet.

We have a “partnership” relationship with Him.

Colossians 2:10 We are complete in Him

Ephesians 1:23 We bring Him to His fullness

With this in mind, let us focus on the concepts concerning the vine and its branches in **John 15**.

***John 15:1-5** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. **2** Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. **3** Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. **5** I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

The branch can't exist without abiding in the vine. What part does the vine play in the relationship that it has with the branches? The vine is the “life-line” that everything that pertains to the life of the branch flows through. Without the vine there is no life in the branch. It depends upon the relationship that it has with the vine.

What part do the branches play? The branches bear fruit and produce the seed that insures the reproduction of the vine. The fruit only comes as the branch receives from the vine.

Can you picture a vine or a trunk of a tree with no branches? What will happen to the vine or the trunk without the branches?

Not only do the branches bear the fruit of reproduction, but the branches also identify the tree. All of the splendor and glory of the tree or vine is displayed through the branches that bear the leaves, the flowers and the fruit. Without the branches, the tree will die!

It takes both parts! We have a partner relationship with God!

Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. Relate this to **Genesis 1:24-26** God created everything to bring forth after its kind and God created man in his image to bring forth after His kind.

John 1:15 *I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman*

Now, looking at **John 15:1**, what is the role of the husbandman or the farmer? The farmer prepares the soil, plants the seed, supplies the fertilizer, waters the plant and supplies everything that is needed in order for the vine to bring forth fruit in abundance.

John 15: 2 *Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3* *Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.*

What happens to the branch that bears no fruit? What must take place before the branch can bear more fruit? We have this traditional idea that it will be a painful process because we have not looked at in light of the relationship that we have as a branch. Unless the provision flows through the vine, the branch will not bear fruit.

Look at the scriptures again in light of definitions for “*taketh away*,” and “*purgeth*” from Strong’s Concordance.

taketh away-to lift, to take away, to expiate sin, remove

purgeth-to cleanse, to prune, to expiate sin

The branches bear fruit because the cross was a success. Everything that seems to stand in the way of the branch bearing fruit has been taken care of by the husbandman through Jesus!

John 15:7 *If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8* *Herein [in this position of rest (Strong’s Concordance)] is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so [in this cumulative force (Strong’s Concordance)] shall ye be my disciples.*

We bear fruit by abiding in the vine. The word ask here is deceiving. It sounds like the branch has to continually ask the vine to supply. Once

again, by referring Strong's Concordance, we can get a true picture of what was being conveyed.

Ask- (159) this particular word for ask does not mean ask as we know it. It means to demand what is due. In other words, when the branch is in the abiding position, everything the branch has need of is provided for by the vine because that is what the vine does. Put into terms that we can understand, when we take our position as a son with the mentality that the Father will provide for us, we will have everything that we need provision for.

John 14:10 What position did Jesus (as the Son) take?

John 15:9 *As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.*

We are told to "continue!" In the beginning God created everything to bring forth after its kind and we are the ones that bear the fruit and "fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord." We validate the Father as a good provider when we begin to see the type of relationship that the Father intended for us to walk in with Him and receive of His provision. God said that He would not share his glory with anyone. What He means by this is that He will not share His position as our provider with anyone, but as our Father he shares everything that He has with us. When we begin to realize that we are filled with His glory, and His honor and live our lives with that mentality, the whole world will see the glory of God through us.

Glorify the Father

John 17: 4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

Jesus finished the work that the Father gave Him to do. That work was to glorify the Father. The glory of God is everything that defines who God is and what He does. According to Strong's Concordance, the work glorified means **"a revelation with a manifestation."**

Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit. **Acts 10:38** The Holy Spirit directly connected Him with the things of the Father and make Him God Conscious. Jesus had a revelation of who His Father was and what He was all about. The Father revealed himself to the son and that revelation flowed through the life of the son in such a manner that when people saw Jesus, they got a revelation of the Father.

Hebrews 1: 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

Jesus was the express image **[exact copy]** of the Father. When people saw Jesus, they saw the Father. One of the disciples asked Jesus to show them the Father, and Jesus replied that if you have seen me, you have seen the Father. **John 14:7,9-10**

John 17:6 Amplified Bible I have manifested Your Name [I have revealed Your very Self, Your real Self] to the people whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, and You gave them to Me, and they have obeyed and kept Your word.

We have been anointed with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit glorifies **[reveals]** Jesus to us. **John 16:13-15, John 14:16-17**

1 John 4:17 . . .As He is, so are we in this world.

We were called to glorify the Father in the same manner that Jesus did.

John 17:18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

***John 20:21-23** Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. **22** And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: **23** Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.*

We bear fruit. We bring forth after “His Kind.” When others see us as we correctly see both ourselves and the Father, others will see the Father.
Genesis 1:12,24,26

We are the display of God’s glory on this earth. We have been given the commission to fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.

The Corrupt Tree

John 15:4 *Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*

Matthew 7:17-18 *Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.*

According to Strong's Concordance, something that is corrupt is decaying or dying because it is separated from its source of life.

Matthew 7:15 *Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?*

False prophets will come with a good sounding message, but it will not bring forth good fruit. A corrupt tree **[one that is separated from its source]** cannot bring forth good fruit.

There is a good sounding message out there, but instead of producing love, joy, peace and a sense of righteousness, it is producing condemnation, strife, envy, bitterness and jealousy.

2 Corinthians 11:13 *For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*

Again, there will be false prophets with a message that looks good! They will minister righteousness that depends upon the works of man. They will put the focus on the branch's ability rather than on the supply of the vine. That is a failure formula because by the law no one will be made righteous. Do they know that they are presenting a false gospel? I don't think so. The message sounds good, but it cannot produce what God wants to produce in our lives. Satan is behind this false gospel.

2 Thessalonians 2: 4 *Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is*

called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, **shewing himself that he is God.**

The message sounds so good that people think that it is coming from God.

Matthew 7: 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

People have been involved with doing things that sound good, but they are not things that are coming from the heart of God. The scripture says, "Depart from me, you that work iniquity." You who are occupied with the things of the law, depart from me!

You can be doing things for the kingdom and you call Jesus Lord, but if you are doing it from a law standpoint, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven. We think that means that they will not spend eternity with the Father. But, what it means is that these people will not be able to partake of true gospel fruit, which is a sense of righteousness, peace, and joy.

Romans 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

If you are not experiencing these things, it is a good indication that the deceptions of the wolf are at work.

There are two gates. One leads to life, and one is corrupt!

Matthew 7:13 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.

Isaiah 29:20 For the terrible one is brought to nought, and the scorner is consumed, and all that watch **[on the lookout, alert]** for iniquity are cut off **[destroyed, fail, perish]**: **21** That make a man an offender for a word, and lay a snare for him that reproveth **[to be right]** in the gate, and turn aside **[deflect, overthrow]** the just **[lawful, righteous]** for a thing of

nought [worthless, vain].

How does the angel of Light or wolf bring about the deception according to works? It sounds so obvious, but it is easy for the enemy to involve us because we have such a zeal for the things of the Lord. We want what God has for us and we will fight to get it! Here is how it works...

Read the parable of the sower in **Mark 4**. This parable is key to understanding all of the other parables. **Mark 4:13** Seed was sown into the ground but the seed not only fell into good soil, but it also fell upon the path way, upon stony ground and upon ground that was full of weeds. The harvest was an indicator of the type of ground that the seed fell on.

Our first reaction when we read this is that we need to do something to improve our ground! It is a natural reaction because everyone wants to live life to its fullest and be a productive child of God that is pleasing to the master. Our own zeal plays into the lies of the wolf or the angel of light who always refers us to the works of our own hands.

Mark 4:14 *The sower soweth the word. 15 And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. 16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; 17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. 18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, 19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.*

In each one of these situations, something happened to the Word that was heard and it was not able to bear fruit. **1 Peter 1:23** says that God's Word is incorruptible, and **Isaiah 55:10-11** says that God's Word always accomplishes what he sends it to accomplish. **Mark 4:24** says to take heed how you hear, and the account of the sower in **Luke 8:18** says to take heed what you hear. Unless what you hear comes from the Holy Spirit, your hearing will not be able to bear fruit. **1 Corinthians 2:9-14**.

What part does the soil play in growing a crop? Does the soil throw out the rocks, till itself or pull up its own weeds? That is the farmer's job. The

soil only receives the seed. This is directly parallel to the vine and the branches. The branch receives and out of its receiving it produces good fruit. The fruit comes from abiding in the provision supplied by the vine.

If you aren't abiding in the vine, the fruit will reveal it. Instead of peace and joy, you will experience frustration and condemnation that comes from the flesh not being able to conform to the things of the law. **Romans 7:18**

Matthew 7:20 *Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.*

Have we truly grasped the concept of abiding in Him or is it mixed with the lies of the angel of light that promotes righteousness through works? God is our provider, our husbandman, our source.

2Peter 1:3 *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

2Peter 1:8 *For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.*

The Holy Spirit's Prompting

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death [**sin conscious**]; but to be spiritually

Minded [**God conscious**] is life and peace.

2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war [**fight carnal inclinations**] after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

We become God conscious or spiritually minded through the work of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual things have to be spiritually discerned. We can only access the things of the Spirit by revelation.

***1 Corinthians 2:12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. **13** Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **14** But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

***Romans 7:6 Amp** But now we are discharged from the law and have terminated all intercourse with it, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life.]*

***Romans 8:15 KJV** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry Abba Father.*

All intercourse with the law has been terminated. Our Christian walk according to the new covenant is not about obeying written regulations. It is about being led by the Holy Spirit's promptings that reveal the things that have been freely given to us of God. Those things can only be spiritually discerned.

John 6:63 *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

The Holy Spirit reveals the mystery. **Colossians 1:17** Christ in me the hope of glory. The glory of God and the righteousness of God are synonymous. We have an enemy of righteousness that perverts the right ways of God. **Acts 13:10** Since the mystery of the Gospel is revealed to us by the Holy Spirit, it makes since to suspect that the enemy has perverted the role of the Holy Spirit.

Why, after years of walking as Christians with the Holy Spirit residing inside of them, do most Christians know very little about their true identity in Christ?

Everyone that is born again has been given the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:21, 38-39

2 Corinthians 6:17,19 The *Holy Spirit is our God connection.*

Do you know what you have? I have a computer. Its capacity of use is limited to my knowledge. That concept can be applied in the same way to the work of the Holy Spirit in us. We need to know what we have. If we don't, the enemy can give us a good sounding perversion of the truth that will not produce the same fruit.

Romans 7:18 The Old Covenant works by man's will power and reasoning. What man wants to do, he can't because he lacks the will power to carry it through.

Ephesians 2:8-10 The New Covenant works by grace. Grace is defined in Strong's Concordance as "*The divine influence of God upon our hearts, and its reflection in our lives.*"

It is by grace that we are saved. The word saved means to be set free from condemnation or to be liberated. Set free from what? Set free from the condemnation that comes by the law. **Romans 7:18**

We are His workmanship. God writes life on our hearts through grace that is carried out by the work of the Holy Spirit. **2 Corinthians 3:3,6**

We are no longer bound by the limitations of the flesh. God does for us what we can't do ourselves as He quickens us to truth through the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 7:6 Amp *But now we are discharged from the law and have terminated all intercourse with it, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life.]*

2 Corinthians 3:8 The ministration of the Spirit is called the ministration of righteousness

2 Corinthians 3:7, 9 The ministration of the law is called the ministration of condemnation and death

2 Corinthians 3:11 The ministration of the law has been done away with. Even though we want to do what is right, we do not have the will power to do it and it produces death and condemnation. **Romans 7:18**

Romans 8:2 *The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus set me free from the law of sin and death.*

What is the kingdom of heaven? **Romans 14:17** righteousness, peace and joy "in the Holy Ghost."

Where is the kingdom? **Luke 17:21** The kingdom is within you. The kingdom of God is working from the inside out by the work of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:9-14 The natural man, according to his natural wisdom, can't receive the things of God. They have to be spiritually quickened by the Holy Spirit. Spiritual things only come through revelation, as God writes on your hearts words of truth.

Romans 8:6 To be carnally minded is death. To be Spiritually minded is life and peace.

2 Corinthians 3:14-18 Unless what we know about God is spiritually quickened, we will have a veil over our eyes and will be unable to discern real spiritual truth. The Holy Spirit removes that veil.

The Holy Spirit makes us God conscious.

Hebrews 10:14-17

Jude 20-21, 24

John 16:13-15

The Holy Spirit does not operate through your conscious. Your conscious is affected by your circumstances and emotions and is like a yo- yo, up one minute and down the next.

The Holy Spirit presents a "*knowing*" that is not connected to our conscious effort. Here is how it works with me. I can be studying the word, focusing on a certain scripture and fail to really discern what it is talking about. I love to jog. I don't listen to an i-pod. I just put one foot in front of the other and enjoy the scenery that is put before me. All of a sudden, I will have a thought, maybe about a scripture, and I know exactly what it means. Was I thinking about it? No, it was spiritually quickened. Another way the Spirit works is when I pray for someone. Suddenly I know something about someone that I did not know before. No one told me. They did not tell me. How do I know what I know? The Holy Spirit quickened it to me. As I speak what the Holy Spirit revealed to me, it has a life-changing effect on the one I am praying for because they recognize that what I said had to be from God, and it produces a sense of hope that is based upon the faithfulness of God. **Hebrews 10:22-23**

Blaspheming the Holy Spirit

We have been led to believe that the Holy Spirit is the one who points out our faults and encourages us to do better the next time. We have been listening to a voice that is not the voice of the Holy Spirit. It is the enemy, Satan, who is the accuser. The definition of the word Satan according to Strong's Concordance is accuser.

Satan works through our conscious. He causes us to be self conscious, or in other words, he causes us to put our focus on the things of the flesh that will pass away. **1 Peter 1:23-25** It comes through accusation. He does this by causing us to think that the voice of accusation is the voice of the Father.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 calls him an angel of light. What he presents sounds good, but it is based on a deception because it is not coming from God even though we believe it is.

John 16:7-11 The Holy Spirit reproves (convinces) the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He doesn't point out our faults one by one. He tells us that we need to put our confidence in Jesus because that is where we will find our answers. He convinces us that we are righteous because Jesus made us righteous. Then, he speaks of judgment because *"the prince of this world is judged."*

What Satan has done is flipped the roles. He causes us to believe that God is the accuser and we are the judged, when Satan is the accuser and he is the judged!

John 3:16-18 Jesus did not come to condemn the world. He came to save the world from the condemnation that comes when the focus is placed upon the flesh. It is not God that sentences us to judgment. Our own works are what keep us from experiencing the good things of God.

Mark 3:24-29 talks about blaspheming the Holy Spirit. It says that a divided house can't stand. In other words, one that entertains two opposite thoughts will not be strong enough to stand firm when opposition comes. If you want to steal from someone, you give them an opposing thought. Blasphemy means to mis-represent someone by saying something about them that is opposite of the truth. The Bible says

we can blaspheme anything but the Holy Spirit. When we blaspheme the Holy Spirit, we will never have forgiveness. The word forgiveness means freedom from condemnation. The Holy Spirit is continually building us up and telling us that by one sacrifice, we have been perfected forever. What happens is that when the Holy Spirit speaks to us that Jesus has provided our forgiveness and righteousness, we hear an opposing voice that points to our flesh. It says, "How can you be pleasing to God? How can you call yourself righteous? Look what you have done." When we entertain those thoughts, our house becomes divided. We become full of condemnation, and spiritually weak.

The scripture says that when we blaspheme the Holy Spirit we are in danger of eternal damnation, or in other words, we will never be free from the condemnation that comes from the accusation of the enemy.

2 Timothy 2:25-26 The enemy causes us to become captives of condemnation by causing us to oppose ourselves.

How can we oppose Satan's house and divide him? When he presents us with thoughts that originate in the flesh, we refute them with what God has done for us in the Spirit. We agree with God! I have been perfected forever. Jesus was enough for me.

1 John 3:20-21 Our heart can condemn us when God is not condemning us. When our heart is not condemning us, we have confidence in God.

Hebrews 10:35 says to cast not away your confidence which has great recompense {**payment in like kind**} of reward. If we believe that we are blessed, we will experience the blessings of God without measure. If we believe that we are not worthy to receive the blessings of God, we won't expect Him to bless us, and we will receive what we are expecting.

Ministers of the Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:5-6,17-18 Ministers of the Spirit glorify God. They minister the things of the vine by allowing the Spirit to flow through them. Their sufficiency in ministry comes from God and the fruit of their ministry produces life and liberty to the recipients.

Ministry according to the law always produces condemnation. It is designed to kill.

Romans 2:17-24 Ministers of the law blaspheme (**misrepresent**) the name of the Lord. When the law is ministered, God is not validated as a good provider.

Everyone ministers something!

Grieving the Holy Spirit

***Matthew 7:17** Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.*

Ephesians 4:29-30 Let no corrupt [**that which separates anyone from their source**] communication come out of your mouth. Do not talk about yourself or others as though they do not have a savior!

Minister grace [**What the Holy Spirit ministers**] that sets people free.

Never minister the law! **Matthew 23:4,13** It takes people captive in such a way that they can't enter into the things of the kingdom.

Ephesians 4:31-32 Put away evil [**blasphemy against God**] speaking. God says that He provides everything that pertains to life and Godliness. Put people in contact with words of life that bring hope to their situations. Do not refer them to the things of the flesh that will not be able to produce.

Ephesians 4:22 Put off the old man!

Ephesians 4:24 Put on the new man

Acts 10:38 Heal all that are oppressed of the devil. The oppression of the devil comes in the form of a lie that puts all of the weight of the burden of man's performance on the shoulders of the man.

1 Corinthians 2:2-4 Be determined to know nothing among them but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Take your eyes off of the ability of man to conform and instead put your confidence in the power and faithfulness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:14-19 The old man is dead!

Ministers of the Spirit connect people to the power of God and make them God conscious!

Discerning the Lie

Romans 8:15 *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

There are two laws, 2 voices, 2 types of fruit! Take heed how you hear!
Luke 8:18

Hebrews 5:12-14 -Until we can learn to tell the difference between the voice of God and the voice of the enemy we will always be baby Christians. Most Christians are desperately looking for answers because what they seem to know does not work. They are looking for the one key that will unlock it all.

The key is: They must learn to recognize and exercise the truth!
1 Timothy 4:1-3, 7-8

Hebrews 6:1-6 Behind all bad fruit there is a lie! In their own eyes what Jesus did on the cross was not enough for them.

What is the fruit of the law? Condemnation, frustration, accusation and failure.

What is the lie that you are believing that is producing this? Is Jesus enough? What is the truth? What would the Spirit minister?

Every time you encounter the fruits of the law, there is a lie involved and you need to exercise the truth. When the lie says you cannot overcome this situation, this is a lie because the Word says I can do all things through Christ Jesus which strengthens me. Write down the lie. Then search what the word says concerning that lie, write it down and exercise the truth. Divide the house of the enemy by countering the lie with the truth, and do it as often as the lie comes up!

Romans 6:4 We walk in newness of life by the **glory [God's opinion]** of the Father. Say what God says!

Proverbs 18:10 The name **[position you have in Jesus (in the vine)]** is a strong tower. We have become experts in acknowledging our sin. That won't set us free. We instead need to become experts in acknowledging

what the cross means to us. We need to focus on God's faithfulness to provide for us what we can't provide for ourselves. **Romans 3:3-4**

Our faith becomes powerfully active by acknowledging every good thing that we have in Christ Jesus; by acknowledging what we have as the branch that is in the receiver's position. He is our provision! Take your mind off the problem and put it on the faithfulness of God who promises to be your source.

***Philemon 1:6** That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*

2 Peter 2:3, 8-9,12 His divine power provides everything that I need that pertains to life and godliness. If I am not experiencing the provision, it is because I have forgotten the position that I have been placed in because of the cross. We need to remind each other who they are. We need to remind ourselves who we are. We are the branches that receive everything from the vine. If you lack something, put your eyes on the power of God to provide what you need. Father, I do not have the ability to handle this. Holy Spirit, quicken the things that I need to understand in order to be an overcomer in this area.

You can't do it by your will power! **Romans 7:18** That is the lie because it is not enough!

You need to learn how to boldly run to the source and how to be a receiver. **Hebrews 4:14-16**