

“Deciphering Biblical Fruit”

Galatians 5:25

October 25, 2020

INTRO: What do pyrite & coal have in common? *(potential!)*

*“God changes caterpillars **into** butterflies, sand **into** pearls and **coal into diamonds** by using time and **pressure**.*

He is working on you too.” - Rick Warren.

PRAYER

CONTEXT:

1. Series
2. Jude (*“...pray in the Spirit...”*)
3. Fruits
4. Galatians

T/S: Understanding biblical FRUIT: Fruit is the evidence, presence, and/or byproduct of a source-seed & it’s particular root system... and growing season. - JDP

BIG IDEA: *The fruit of the Spirit
is the root of Christ’s witness in Christians!*

PREVIEW:

- A. Fruitful **CONTRAST**
- B. Fruitful **CONFIRMATION**
- C. Fruitful **CONQUEST**

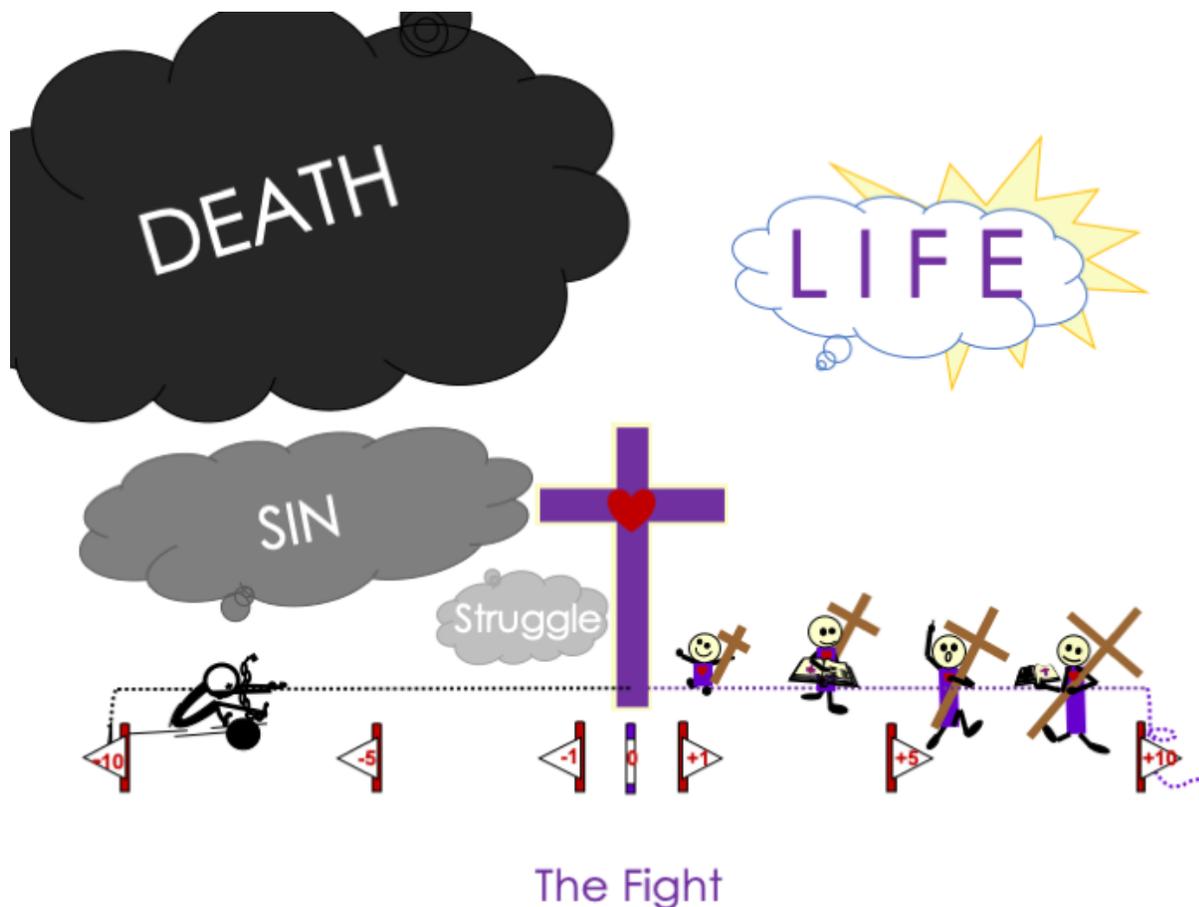
TEXT:

Galatians 5:25

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

I. Fruitful **CONTRAST** (Freedom)

1For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.



44

2Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.

If you worship the god of self, society, & stuff... you will never know true, biblical peace because that god only knows one word: **“MORE!”** - JDP

3I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. **4**You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. **5**For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. **6**For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

7You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? **8**This persuasion is not from him who calls you. **9****A little leaven leavens the whole lump.** **10**I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is. **11**But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. **12**I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!

13For **you were called to freedom, brothers.** Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **14**For **the whole law is fulfilled in one word:** “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” **15**But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

***** Don't miss the THEME of the Gospel's CONTRAST *****

- Love for God vs. Law for God
- Submission vs. Subversion & Covenants vs. Contracts
- Grace, Faith, & Hope vs. Sin, Self, & Satan

- Choosing the Gospel vs. Changing God's Goodness
- Standing-firm vs. Falling-away
- Purity & Perseverance vs. Perverted Persuasion
- Christ-like vs. Corrupt & Sanctification vs Circumcision
- Redeeming Relationships vs. Religious Rituals
- Clarity vs. Confusion & Contrast vs. Compromise
- Truth vs. Lies & Power of Faith vs. Passion of Flesh
- Serving-others vs Self-obsessed
- Spirit-filled vs. Self-righteous
- Discipleship vs. Debauchery & Heaven vs. Here/Hell
- Faithful-Obedience vs. Faithless-Obstruction
- Witness/Ambassador for Christ vs. for **Culture**

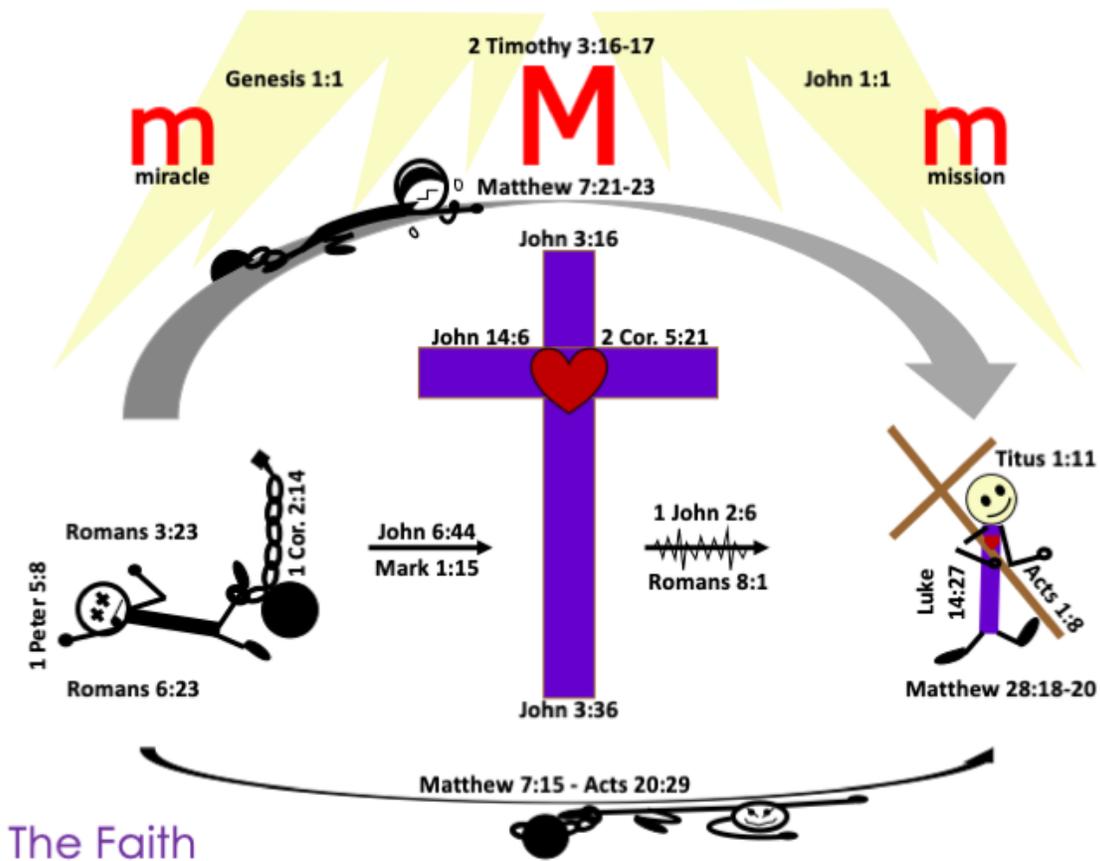
The FRUIT of Biblical FAITH is Biblical Freedom... AND the fruit of biblical freedom is biblical faith BE-ing lived-out!

II. Fruitful **CONFIRMATION** (Fight)

16But I say, **walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.** **17**For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. **18**But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

19 Now the **works of the flesh are evident**: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, **20** idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, **21** envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do/**practice such things** will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



Deciphering 6 categories of biblical fruit:

1. **NO** fruit
2. **BAD** fruit
3. **FAKE** fruit
4. **NEW** fruit
5. **GOOD** fruit
6. **MUCH** fruit

The Church is to BE & become an ever enlarging cornucopia of Christlikeness! - JDP

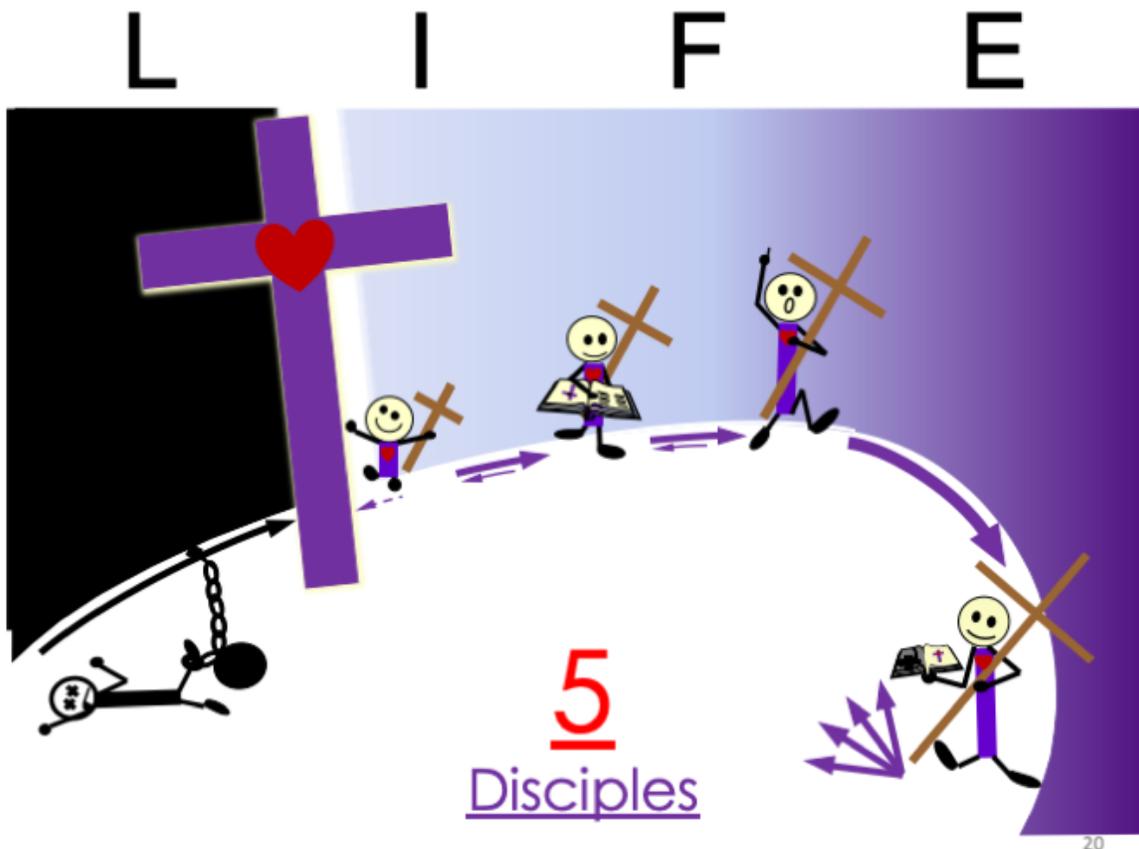
III. Fruitful **CONQUEST** (Family)

24And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.... 26Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

25 *If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.*

A. Fruitful family members truly:

- a. Belong to Christ!
- b. Have crucified the flesh (with its passions & desires)
- c. Live by the Spirit
- d. Keep in step with the Spirit



B. Fruitful family members truly are:

- a. "Good trees"
- b. "Bearing GOOD fruit"
- c. "Bearing MUCH good fruit"
 - i. All by God's grace
 - ii. All thru Christ's Gospel
 - iii. All for His glory!

The family of God is both a sample & example...
We are to BE both showing & telling
the Gospel's truth in love. - JDP

REVIEW:

v.1... For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

v.13... For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

v.16... ...walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

v.19... Now the works of the flesh are evident/obvious...

v.25... If we live by the Spirit, let us walk (worship, work, war, & witness) by the Spirit.

CLOSE:

Understanding biblical FRUIT: Fruit is the evidence, presence, and/or byproduct of a source-seed & it's particular root system... and growing season. - JDP

*The fruit of the Spirit
is the root of Christ's witness in Christians!*

John 15:8

"My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. – Jesus the Christ

Let's **PRAY!**

VIDEO: *"Where Is Your Fruit?"*