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# One of Nine – LOVE

*A Study of the Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit*

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Galatians 5:22 GNB - But the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

Continuing our study of the fruit of the Spirit, let us look at it more in depth. Upon studying these things I have learned quite a bit myself and see some things with new understanding. Our verse at the top says “.....the Spirit produces.....” and the KJV says the “fruit” of the Spirit (note that the word fruit is singular and yet nine things are listed.) He is producing all nine of these gifts at the same time. It is like a crystal or a prism - all the colors can be separated even though they are coming from one source. Likewise all the fruit is produced by the Holy Spirit yet we can separate them for understanding into nine items. As we, the believer, walk in union with the Spirit they are produced through our born-again spirits as well.

Our spirit always has these attributes even when we don't feel like it. They are being produced regardless of how we feel in our emotions. When we are joined to the Lord we are one with Him as the scripture teaches us in I Cor.6:17 and that is why we also produce this fruit.

The fruit of the Spirit is constant and does not come and go, it is not on and off. Even when we are feeling like we have no “Love” it is being produced. The same is true with joy or faith. We may fluctuate or be inconsistent and use our faith accordingly but the truth is the fruit of Love or Faith or Joy is constantly in our spirits. We simply have to draw them out from the wells of our salvation.

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*“Faith, like a river that flows over rock is constantly eroding and changing the rock, so faith is produced constantly by the Spirit and is ever present and working”*

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Again it is not by our efforts or our works but it is totally by what has already been done for us through the cross and work of Jesus Christ thru salvation. God is LOVE! I have heard so many say, “remember God loves you”, and yes that is true but what I want you to really understand is that God loves you as if you were the only one and there was no other. It is a matchless love and it is a love that is completely U N C O N D I T I O N A L.

He loved us while we were unlovable, while we hated Him and went completely in the opposite direction. He ran and came our direction and opened the way for us to be able to, not only know Him, but to love like He loves. ‘A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. (John 13:34-35)

The truth is many churches and ministries are teaching that God’s love for us is conditional, by leaving the impression that the more we read our Bible or pray or give the more God loves us. That is simply a misrepresentation of His love, and it contributes to why Christians are so judgmental and harsh toward other people. Whether we think about it or not, we seem to treat people the way we believe God is treating us.

We must understand that God does not love us because we are lovely. We must understand God does not love us based on what we do, how much we pray or read our Bible or go to church or how much money we give. No, if we never prayed or gave money or read our Bible, the fact is He still loves us unconditionally. Don’t get me wrong, all those things are good and we should do them but they do not change His love for us. These things affect us and cause change, but in no wise change God love toward us.

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*“One of the visible fruits of faith is Love”*

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And this fruit of the God kind of love... (remembering our first lesson definition: (Greek: agape) – Agape denotes an undefeatable benevolence and unconquerable goodwill that always seeks the highest of the other no matter what she or he does. It is the unconditional love God has for people.) ...is shed abroad in our hearts so we can love and forgive and live in this life and fulfill the scripture that says “...as He is so are we in this world” (Jn 4:17) and when we start letting this love flow through us it will cast out fear, because we begin to realize it is not about us, but it is all about Jesus and what He has done and what He is doing through us and we have fellowship one with another and walk in the light through the blood of Jesus who cleanseth us from all sin and guilt and condemnation.

**Rom 5:5 - And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**

**Rom 5:6 - For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.**

**Rom 5:7 - For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.**

**Rom 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

Once we begin to understand how much God loves us, love will flow out of us toward others like rivers of living water. It is not hard for a pear tree to produce pears because that is its nature therefore it is not hard for a believer to produce the fruit of love, it is our nature.....