

The Power of an Abiding Christian

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The Vine and the Husbandman

John 15:1

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

Psalm 80:8-9

Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: Thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

⁹ Thou preparedst room before it, And didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land.

Expectation of the Husbandman

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.

Grace of the Husbandman

John 15:3

Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

1 Peter 1:22-23

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Dependance on the Vine

John 15:4-5

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 nature and character of spiritual fruit:

- Galatians 5:22 = transformation of one's character
- Hebrews 13:15 = praise and thanksgiving - "fruit of our lips"
- Colossians 1:10 = walk worthy, fruitful unto every good work
- Romans 16:28 = giving to the Lord's work
- John 4:35 = fields white unto harvest...fruit unto eternal life

1 Peter 4:14-15

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

Potential Loss

John 15:6

If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

Potential Gain

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.

Hebrews 12:11

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Bring Honor to the Husbandman

John 15:8

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Obedience in Love

John 15:9-10

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

¹⁰ If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

John 15:11

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.