Truly Great When Christ Comes Again

5.6 Fruit of Holy Spirit

Bible Verse: Galatians 5:22

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, Kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Be & come

Proclaim: I want to be the Lord's tree of life, bearing the spiritual fruits.

Truth: We must grow in the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Our good character reveals the presence of God within us, and draws souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Reference: Genesis 45: 1-15

Lesson: (1) God values the fruit of the Spirit – The fruit of the Holy Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. God attach importance to the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The bible states that it is more important for a man to have love, rather than capability. "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal." Imagine the importance of the inner qualities – for example: a bank officer must not only attain academic qualifications but also have patience and honesty. (1 Corinthians 13:1)

- (2) We reap what we sow "Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." This is the eternal principle that the Lord God has set. If we yield to the Holy Spirit and sow graciousness and endurance, we will bear the fruit of goodness and patience in time. If we harbor dissent or grudge, hatred and bitterness will be formed. (Galatians 5:22-23; 6:7)
- (3) <u>Joseph chose to sow rightly</u> In his youth, Joseph was thrown into a pit in the wilderness by his brothers, who had bitter jealousy towards him. They then sold him to a company of Ishmaelite. He was taken as a slave to Egypt, where he suffered many years of affliction and hardship. However, when he met with the brothers again, he showed forgiveness and kindness to all of them, in spite of the pains. Joseph chose to sow the right seeds of endurance and kindness, and was able to forgive and love his enemies. Our gracious God wants us to forgive and love our enemies, like Joseph. The Bible teaches that if we do not forgive men who sin against us, the Father will not forgive our sins. (Matthew 6:14-15; Genesis 45:1-15)
- (4) <u>Holy Spirit is working inside us</u> *The Bible teaches*: "The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." *Joseph yielded to the Holy Spirit continually and became a man of good character. We ought to yield to the Spirit and let God form goodness of character in us too.* (Galatians 6:8)
- (5) Our spiritual fruit reveal the Lord in us "Every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit." When we have the fruit of the Spirit, we will manifest the Lord's presence and His likeness. In having love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, we can greatly help people to know God. (Matthew 7:17)

Conclusion:

Joseph of the Old Testament did not harbor bitterness in his heart but chose to grow in goodness and in the fruits of the Spirit. Let us be like Joseph who yielded to God's Spirit of grace. By our good character, let us show Christ-likeness and glorify the Lord God.

Prayer/Invitation: Pray that today's truths will be written on our hearts in Lord Jesus' name