

Elder Bobby Willis



Romans 6:22, **“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”**

God is a God of order; always has been and always will be. We can see plainly the proper order of salvation in Romans 6:22. It is God that works first in the hearts of His children as was stated by Paul in Ephesians 2:1, **“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;...”** Once we were made free from the penalty of sin by what Christ did for us in redemption, then we have a responsibility to serve Him. I Thessalonians 4:1 says, **“Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.”** To **“abound more and more”** means to bear much fruit.

Now, there are two kinds of fruit. There is a bad fruit which we bore when we walked not by the Spirit (Matthew 7:17 - **“...a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit”**), then there is a good fruit which we are to use abundantly after being born again and then being converted to a servant of God. The Lord has given His children nine fruit of the Spirit which we are to use daily in our lives. Galatians 5:22-23 says, **“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance:...”** These nine parts or sections of the fruit of the Spirit are not to be used singularly, but rather collectively together. They are not fruits, but make up **“the fruit of the Spirit.”** We have been given this fruit to use as servants of God. This is like a grape vine. Grapes are not fruits of the vine; they are fruit of the grape vine. Apples, oranges, lemons, and etc., are fruit of whatever tree (vine) that bears them. We, as children of God, are to bear the fruit of our Father. The scripture explains this well in John 15:5, **“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.”** Therefore, if we are to bring forth much fruit (works of righteousness), we must abide in the vine. Let us remember and then do as Paul admonished in I Corinthians 7:24, **“Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.”**

As children of God, we have been made free from sin and given the promise of eternal life. Should we not then abide in the vine and bring forth much fruit to the glory of God? ***Think About IT!***