

דְּבָרִים

D'varim

(Words)

D'varim [Deuteronomy] 1:1-3:22

הברית החדשה

HaB'rit HaChadashah

(the new covenant)

Bearing Fruit

Yochanan (John) 15:1-2

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes it away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit."

One of the misconceptions found in modern day Christianity deals with what constitutes fruit in a person's life. The common teaching is that in order to have fruit a person must bring another person to Messiah. However, this is simply not the case. Let us examine what Scripture says to see exactly what fruit is, and therefore what it is that Yeshua was teaching us here in this passage.

Matithyah (Matthew) 12:33

"Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree corrupt, and its fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by its fruit."

Yeshua taught us that a tree is either good or evil. And the tree true to its being will yield fruit according to the type of tree that it is. If the tree is evil, then the fruit is evil. If the tree is good, then the fruit will be good.

This principle of everything yielding after its own kind was set into all of creation from the very beginning. If one plants corn, it will be corn that he reaps. To expect to reap something other than

what is planted is pure insanity. Furthermore, it will never happen, it simply is not possible to get something other than what is planted.

Matithyah (Matthew) 7:17-19

17 "Even so every good tree brings forth good fruit; but the corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that brings not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."

Please note that Yeshua taught us that if one does not yield good fruit, then he is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore it behooves each and every one of us to know exactly what fruit is and particularly what good fruit is so that we may bear it for our Master!

Matithyah (Matthew) 15:18-19

18 "But the things which proceed out of the mouth come forth out of the heart; and they defile the man.

19 For out of the heart come forth evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, railings."

Please note that what defiles a man is the very thing that also makes a man evil. If these evil things are inside a man then these will come forth and bear fruit that is clearly recognizable as coming from the heart. Is it any wonder then that YHWH commanded the death penalty for certain sins against Him and against His people, for He knew that these things come forth from the heart of man?

Tehillim (Psalm) 12:2-3

***2 They speak falsehood every one with his neighbor;
With flattering lip, and with a double heart, do they speak.***

***3 YHWH will cut off all flattering lips,
The tongue that speaks great things;***

Yeshua taught us that all evil plants will be cut down and thrown into the fire. As one can plainly see, this truth has been around for a very long time.

Galatians 5:19-21

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, parties,

21 envyings, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of which I forewarn you, even as I did forewarn you, that they who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of Elohim.

Shaul through the Spirit of Mashiach lists for us those things that are manifested outwardly as evil fruit. It is the production of evil fruit that will cause one to be cut down and cast into the fire. This truth is clearly seen in this next passage.

Romans 7:5

For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions, which were under the Torah, were at work in our body to bring forth fruit to death.

One of the things that this passage teaches us is that the fruit to death is within one's own body. Those things that are manifested outside of the body are only a reflection of what is inside the body. Basically what we have seen so far is that everything that a person does is either good or evil. Everything that a person does is a reflection of what is inside of him. Therefore, everything that a person does is fruit. It is either good fruit or evil fruit, but it is most definitely fruit.

Ephesians 2:3

among whom we also all once lived in the lust of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

Anyone who lives in such a way as to give himself everything that his body or mind desires is by nature a child of wrath. Every desire that passes through our minds is not necessarily good or healthy for us to give to ourselves. King Sh'lomo found this out the hard way by giving to himself everything that he desired. He discovered that there was only death in this. If one truly wants to have life, then he should focus upon the word of YHWH our Elohim and every word that proceeds out of His mouth.

But this is where the Pharisees missed it.

Luqa (Luke) 11:39

And Yeshua said to him, "You Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the platter; but your inward part is full of extortion and wickedness."

The Pharisees' focus was all in appearance. Everything that they did was so that they would look righteous. But this is not what YHWH desires from us. What He wants us to do is to be righteous on the inside. If one is righteous on the inside, then it will manifest itself in one's daily living. It is in one's daily living where the true self is revealed for all to see. The question is, is one honest enough with himself to see and to admit what is actually there in his life? One just as well be honest and admit it, because others see what is there whether one admits it or not.

Yeshua plants the good seed in us. He then wants us to cultivate that good seed and to take care of it and nourish it so that it will grow, be healthy and become a part of who and what we are. If one does not do this, then death will be the result.

Matithyah (Matthew) 25:14-18

14 "For it is as when a man, going into another country, called his own servants, and delivered to them his goods.

15 And to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one; to each according to his individual ability; and he went on his journey.

16 Immediately he that received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents.

17 In like manner he also that received the two gained another two.

18 But he that received the one went away and dug in the earth, and hid his master's money."

One thing of importance to see and understand in this parable is that what was delivered to these servants was not other people! What was delivered unto each servant was something tangible. It was something that could be increased. Two of the servants in this parable increased what they had been given. They gained more of the same. However, one of the servants did not even make an attempt to gain more, he simply hid what was given to him so that he could give back to his master exactly what his master had given to him, nothing more and nothing less.

Now notice what happens when the master of these servants returns. As the servants who did wisely returned to their master not only what he had entrusted to each of them, but also with a substantial increase, their master responds to each one in turn.

Matithyah (Matthew) 25:21

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you hast been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many things; enter into the joy of your master.' "

The master of these two servants who did well and increased what their master had entrusted them with, was full of joy in the faithfulness of his servants. As a reward he gave them even greater responsibility.

But notice what happens with this next servant. This servant did not increase what his master had entrusted to him. In fact, he did not even try. This servant simply hid it in the earth. Please do not lose sight of the fact that we are made of earth. What this symbolizes then is that many will be guilty of hiding internally those gifts and talents that YHWH has given them and they do not use them to increase them and to gain more so that they can give them back to their Master on the Day of Judgment.

Matithyah 25:29:30

29 "For to everyone that has more shall be given, and he shall have abundance; but from him that has not, even that which he has shall be taken away.

30 And cast out the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness; there shall be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth."

Lest we think that this judgment upon this servant is too harsh, let us understand the principle of sowing and reaping. Whatever one sows is what he shall reap. However, this is not the conclusion of the matter. The truth is that whatever one sows he shall reap an increase.

Hoshea 8:7a

For they sow the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind;

Notice that if one sows wind, then it is not just wind, but a whirlwind that one shall reap.

Mishle (Proverbs) 22:8

***He that sows iniquity shall reap calamity;
And the rod of his wrath shall fail.***

Again, please note that if one chooses to sow iniquity, it is not just iniquity that he shall reap, but he shall reap calamity as well.

This same principle is not only true of sowing and reaping evil, but of good as well.

Mishle (Proverbs) 22:9

***He that has a generous eye shall be blessed;
For he gives of his bread to the poor.***

When one sows goodness, then he shall surely be blessed. Yeshua taught us this same truth.

Matithyah (Matthew) 19:29

“And every one that has left houses, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or children, or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and shall inherit eternal life.”

Please note that this reaping is not fully in the next life, but rather this reaping is also in this life. Luqa records it like this:

Luqa (Luke) 18:29-30

***29 And He said to them, “Amein, I say to you, there is no man that has left house, or wife, or brothers, or parents, or children, for the kingdom of Elohim's sake,
30 who shall not receive manifold more in this time, and in the world to come eternal life.”***

But as we have seen in order to receive this manifold blessing from the hand of our heavenly Father, then one must be a faithful servant and increase that which He has given to us. You must increase what He has given to you and I must increase what He has given to me. Not doing this brings death.

Each person must increase what He has given to him. To say it another way, we must become more like Mashiach Yeshua and remove those things that are selfish and self-exalting.

Yochanan (John) 3:30

“He must increase, but I must decrease.”

The most effective way for this to happen in us is for us to hear and obey His Voice in every detail. The more a person hears and obeys His Voice, the more that he becomes like Mashiach Yeshua, who did everything that His Father commanded Him to do.

Yochanan (John) 14:31

“but that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.”

Yeshua brought forth good fruit in the Spirit. Likewise He asks us to do the same, to bring forth good fruit in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 meekness, self-control; against such there is no Torah.

The fruit of the Spirit is singular. The fruit of the Spirit is all of those things listed. There are not many fruits of the Spirit, but one fruit of the Spirit. Some aspects of this fruit as listed will shine brighter in others than in some. But whatever those aspects are that are not as bright in us, are those things that we need to nurture, to bring forth for the sake of His kingdom.

If the fruit of the Spirit is in us, then our tree will be good and it will bring forth goodness to bless those around us.

ABBA YHWH, we ask that You increase Yourself in us and prune away those things that are not bearing good fruit for You or Your kingdom; in the name of Mashiach Yeshua. Amein.

Shabbat Shalom

Zerubbabel ben Emunah

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