

## THINKING BIBLICALLY (About the Fruit of the Spirit)

Gal 5:22-24

Intro: In our last study we saw Paul's explanation of the liberty the believer has, and how it is to be used. I. In Christ we have salvation Vs 1-12; II. In Christ we have liberty Vs 13-15; III. Liberty requires walking "in the Spirit" Vs 16-24. Today I want to begin taking a closer look at the attributes that should be found in every believer.

**Vs 22:**

**Fruit:** Gk. that which is produced by a tree or vine, the harvest. The word is singular in the Greek.

- **Barnes NT Notes:** It is not without design, evidently, that the apostle uses the word "Spirit" here, as denoting that these things do not flow from our own nature. The vices of verses 19-21 are the proper "works" or result of the operations of the human heart; the virtues which he enumerates in verses 22-24 are produced by a foreign influence—the agency of the Holy Spirit. Hence Paul does not trace them to our own hearts, even when renewed. He says that they are to be regarded as the proper result of the Spirit's operations on the soul.

**Of the Spirit:** that which the Holy Spirit causes to come out in the life of the believer who is walking under His leadership and control (the Fruit of the Spirit is the outward indication of the Holy Spirit's dwelling within. To display no fruit is an indication of no Holy Spirit indwelling.)

**Is:** identical, will be identified with. When one speaks of walking in the Spirit, one is talking of the following fruit

**THE FRUIT:** (that which will \_\_\_\_\_ flows from the Spirit into the life and behavior of the Spirit-lead believer.)

**Love:** Gk: agapa-the type love God is

Cf. 1 Corinthians 13 the Biblical description of agapa type love

- I. Christ-like love is longsuffering and kind while going through time of \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 4a
- A. John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
  - B. Rom 5:12 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
  - C. **Adam Clarke:** The love of God, and of our neighbor for God's sake, is patient towards all men: it suffers all the weakness, ignorance, errors, and infirmities of the children of God; and all the malice and wickedness of the children of this world; and all this, not merely for a time, but long, without end; for it is still a mind or disposition, to the end of which trials, difficulties, waits God's time of accomplishing his gracious or providential purposes, without murmuring or repining; and bears its own infirmities, as well as those of others, with humble submission to the will of God.
  - D. **Kind:**
    1. **Adam Clarke:** It is tender and compassionate in itself, and kind and obliging to others; it is mild, gentle, and non-threatening. If called to suffer, love inspires the sufferer with the most pleasant sweetness, and the tenderest affection. It is also submissive to all the will of God; and creates trouble to no one.
    2. Eph 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.
- II. Christ-like love is not \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 4b
- A. **Envious:** to burn with jealousy and anger over another person's \_\_\_\_\_ materially or spiritually
  - B. Ac 7:9 And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,
  - C. Mr 15:10 For he (Pilate) knew that the chief priests had delivered him (Jesus) for envy.
- III. Christ-like love is not \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 4c
- A. **Vaunteth not itself: Strong's Concordance:** a self display, employing rhetorical embellishments in extolling one's self excessively

- B. **Charles Hodges Commentary:** this includes all forms of the desire to gain the applause of others. Love does not seek to win admiration and applause.
- C. The believer does not brag, or draw attention from others, about those positive qualities he/she \_\_\_\_\_ have because he/she knows those qualities are on loan from God and are to be used for His glory alone
- IV. Christ-like love is not \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 4d
- A. **Puffed up:** full of air, self inflated, \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Being "puffed up" causes spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ and leads to sinful behavior
1. Col 2:18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind
  2. 1 Cor 4:1-7
- V. Christ-like love is concerned about the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ first and foremost Vs 5a
- A. **Behave itself unseemly:** \_\_\_\_\_ and unbecoming of a follower of Christ
- B. **Charles Hodges:** does nothing of which one ought to be ashamed
- VI. Christ-like love is not self-seeking or \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ **Seeketh not her own** Vs 5b
- VII. Christ-like love does not get upset \_\_\_\_\_ **Not easily provoked** Vs 5c
- A. Easily irritated or angered
- B. Quick-tempered
- VIII. Christ-like love does not keep records of the wrongs suffered from others **Thinketh no evil** Vs 5d
- A. **Thinketh**-a bookkeeping term meaning to make a \_\_\_\_\_ entry into a ledger: illus. a checkbook ledger entry for money deposited or withdrawn
- B. Keeping permanent records, either \_\_\_\_\_, or in one's \_\_\_\_\_ of the wrongs others have done to us in our lifetime
- IX. Christ-like love does not rejoice in \_\_\_\_\_ practices Vs 6a
- X. Christ-like love rejoices in things that are \_\_\_\_\_ to the character and teachings of God Vs 6b
- XI. Christ-like love bears up under \_\_\_\_\_ it has to bear up under Vs 7a
- A. **Beareth:** to conceal or refuse to repeat
- B. The concept is that love does not gossip or talk about the faults and imperfections of others
- XII. Christ-like love is not \_\_\_\_\_ in nature Vs 7b
- A. **Believeth:** to accept as honest or truthful
- B. The idea of love not being suspicious, sarcastic, and distrusting of human nature
- XIII. Christ-like love demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_ in all situations Vs 7c
- A. **Hopeth:** to have a confident spirit
- B. Love displays a confident spirit because God is on the throne! (Not pessimistic)
- XIV. Christ-like love \_\_\_\_\_ under all circumstances Vs 7d
- A. **Endureth:** 1Pe 4:8 And above all things have fervent charity (love) among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.
- B. 2Ti 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient,
- C. Lu 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.
- XV. Christ-like love \_\_\_\_\_ Vs 8a
- A. **Robertson N T Word Pictures:** Love survives everything
- B. **Faileth:** lose its power and life (because it is developed and sustained by the indwelling Holy Spirit)