

As the Life -- So the Fruit

by C.H. Spurgeon

True fruitfulness in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ requires inner fruitfulness, which is cultivated through essential graces such as faith, virtue, and brotherly love.

Scripture: Galatians 5:22, 2 Peter 1:8

Topics: "Spiritual Growth", "Fruitfulness in Faith"

Description

C.H. Spurgeon emphasizes that to glorify the Lord through fruitfulness, we must cultivate certain virtues within us, starting with faith as the foundation. He explains that qualities such as virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, and brotherly love must not only be present but also abound in our lives to prevent barrenness. Spurgeon warns that mere knowledge without these graces leads to unfruitfulness, and that true usefulness in the Kingdom of God comes from being filled with these virtues. He encourages believers to reflect on their spiritual state and strive for growth in grace to produce meaningful fruit in their lives.

Transcript

For if these thing be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:8)

If we desire to glorify our Lord by fruitfulness, we must have certain things within us; for nothing can come out of us which is not first of all within us. We must begin with faith, which is the groundwork of all the virtues; and then diligently add to it virtue, knowledge, temperance, and patience. With these we must have godliness and brotherly love. All these put together will most assuredly cause us to produce, as our life fruit, the clusters of usefulness, and we shall not be mere idle knowers but real doers of the Word. These holy things must not only be in us, but abound, or we shall be barren.

Fruit is the overflow of life, and we must be full before we can flow over.

We have noticed men of considerable parts and opportunities who have never succeeded in doing real good in the conversion of souls; and after close observation we have concluded that they lacked certain graces which are absolutely essential to fruit bearing. For real usefulness, graces are better than gifts. As the man is, so is his work. If we would do better, we must be better. Let the text be a gentle hint to unfruitful professors and to myself also.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ch-spurgeon/as-the-life-so-the-fruit/>

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