

The Cursed Lemon

Galatians 5: 13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

Galatians 5: 16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Galatians 5: 19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5: 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

The problem of the text is
the difference between the
“acts” of the flesh and the
“fruit” of the Spirit.

John 13: 27 “What you are about to do, **do quickly.**”... **30 As soon as** Judas had taken the bread, he went out.

The acts of the flesh are never
about the acts.

They're about the "walk".

Matthew 3: 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 **Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.**



Ar'ar Tree
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Jeremiah 17: 5 “Cursed (**arur**) is the one who
trusts in man,
who draws strength from mere flesh
and whose heart turns away from the Lord.
6 That person will be like a bush (**arar**) in the
wastelands...

The only way to produce fruit

is by not focusing on the fruit.

If you want to bear the fruit of
the Spirit,
focus on the tree of life.

Start here:

Repent.

Three groups in Galatians 5:

Those who live by the acts of the flesh

Those who produce the fruit of the
Spirit

Three groups in Galatians 5:

Those who live by the acts of the flesh

Those who produce the fruit of the
Spirit

Auditors

A Christian Auditor wants the
fruit

without doing the work.

Three things to grow fruit of the Spirit

Plant, Water, Wait

Plant

Repent

Acts 2: 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

38 Peter replied, “**Repent** and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**”

Water

Water

with obedience

John 15: 15 “If you love me, **keep my commands.** 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17 the **Spirit of truth.** The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, **for he lives with you and will be in you.**

Water

by pruning rot

James 1: 21 Therefore, **get rid** of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Water

by investing in faith community

Acts 2: (after receiving the HS) 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were **being saved**.

Are you intentionally allowing
the Spirit to grow in your life by
providing a suitable
environment for growth?

Wait

for the tree to bear fruit.

Matthew 13: 23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who **produces a crop**, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

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