

# As the Life--So the Fruit

by C.H. Spurgeon

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*True fruitfulness in Christ comes from having certain qualities within us, such as faith, virtue, and knowledge, which produce an overflow of life and usefulness.*

**Scripture:** John 15:5, Galatians 5:22, 2 Peter 1:8

**Topics:** "Fruitfulness", "Spiritual Growth"

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## 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 notes that true fruitfulness is the result of an overflowing life, and that graces are more important than mere gifts for effective ministry. He encourages self-examination among believers to ensure they are not merely idle knowers but active doers of the Word. The sermon serves as a reminder that our inner life directly influences our outward effectiveness in serving God.

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## Transcript

For if these things 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.

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