

LORD LET IT ALONE!

Luke 13:1-9

INTRODUCTION: How important is bearing the fruit of the Spirit in your heart? It is very important to our Lord Jesus Christ! When our Lord tells His own disciples a parable about bearing the fruit of the Spirit we know it is very important to Him. Luke 13:6-9.

I. BEARING FRUIT IN OUR LIVES IS IMPORTANT TO OUR GOD!

Matthew 21:18-19: You might say: "Wow! Aren't we a little impatient here? However, at that time of year if a fig tree had leaves on it should also have fruit. Bearing fruit in our lives as believers in Jesus Christ is very important to our God! Luke 13:6. Isn't it interesting that the fig tree is planted not in a fig tree grove but in a vineyard? The Lord Himself is the one who planted it there: Isaiah 5:1-7. When the Lord came to His vineyard it had produced only bad fruit. The Lord did everything He could to help His vineyard produce good fruit but it produced only bad fruit. Because all He found was bad fruit this is what He did: Isaiah 5:5-6. That is exactly what our Lord Jesus' parable is about here: Luke 13:6-9. This is our Lord's last warning to His nation to repent before destruction comes upon them. All Jesus found in Israel was man's religion and no true relationship with the God of Israel: John 3:1-10. Does the nation of Israel producing only leaves and no fruit remind you of another story in the Bible? Genesis 3:1-7. No repentance here, no turning to God. Man's religion will always only produce leaves without any fruit. Man's religion is only religion not relationship. Genesis 3:21: God Himself spilled the first blood to cover sin so He might once again have a living relationship with Adam and Eve. Today we must be born again through faith in Jesus shed blood or we also will never produce the fruit of the Spirit in our lives: John 15:1-5. God has given His church the same warning He gave to fruitless Israel long ago: Romans 11:13-21. Unbelief can make us unfruitful also just as it did the nation of Israel. Our Lord died for the nation of Israel also: Acts 1:8. Yet when our Lord came to the nation He had planted they rejected Him.

II. NOW OUR LORD WARNS US, HIS BLOOD BOUGHT CHILDREN!

John 15:1-2. We need to get serious about producing God's fruit in our lives: Acts 5:1-11. Now, the most important questions for today: Why did Israel produce only leaves and not good fruit? Why do many Christians today produce only leaves and not good fruit? It is always because of unbelief! 2 Peter 1:3-4. Our God is looking for His fruit in your life! What is that good fruit that our Lord is looking for in each of our lives? Galatians 5:22-25.

III. WHAT IF WE DO NOT PRODUCE GOD'S GOOD FRUIT?

We are being warned today by our Lord so we will examine our own lives to see if we are producing God's good fruit or only man-made leaves. We are being warned today to start living by faith and not by sight. It is a lack of faith in the God of the Word and the promises of the Word of God that prevent us from producing the fruit of the Spirit: Hebrews 11:6: Psalm 92:12-15. Our Lord Jesus said we are to bring glory to our God by producing His fruit through our lives: John 15:8. Even when we produce His fruit He prunes us so we will be even more fruitful: Proverbs 11:30. When God looks at your life, does He see the leaves of religion or the fruit of the Spirit? If we abide in Jesus Christ we will bring God great glory and joy by producing His fruit in our lives: John 15:5-8. If you have not yet received Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior you will never produce the fruit of the Spirit: John 1:9-13.

Dave all verses are from the NIV

Key verse: Luke 13:7

Songs:

355 Christ Liveth In Me

432 I Would Be True

350 O Happy Day

The evening service will be the completion of last week's sermon: What Time I am Afraid!

Wednesday night message: Fearing Fear

Next Sunday morning's sermon: Life: The Gift of God!