> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.
> *— Ephesians 5:11-12*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: Fruitfulness, idols, sin, speaking

Interpretation:
Ephesians 5:11-12 calls us to not participate in or engage in any actions or behaviors that are not pleasing to God, and instead to take steps to eradicate such behaviors.

What are unfruitful works of darkness?

"Unfruitful works of darkness" are all actions and behaviors that are contrary to God's commands. They are those actions that do not produce any good or positive fruit, but instead create chaos, pain, and suffering in our lives and the lives of others.

How can we rebuke unfruitful works of darkness?

Rebuking evil actions involves much more than simply turning away from them. It is important to point them out and confront them in order to help those who engage in them or to protect ourselves and others from their negative influence.

The most effective way to rebuke these actions is to live a life that is consistent with God's values ?? and commands. Moreover, whenever it is necessary to stand up for others and set the necessary limits to prevent harmful actions from occurring, this is of utmost importance.

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> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky

> and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”
> — *Genesis 1:28*

Book: Old Testament / Genesis
Topics: Fruitfulness, blessing, creation, sexuality, world

Interpretation:
Genesis 1:28 is one of the most famous divine commands in the Bible. In this verse, God blesses *Adam and Eve*, the first humans created, and commands them to be fruitful and multiply, to fill and subdue the earth, and to have dominion over the fish, birds, and animals.

What does the command to be fruitful and multiply mean?

The command to be fruitful and multiply means that God created humans to bear children and fill the earth. This is an important task with both physical and spiritual significance. Physically, God desires humans to multiply and ensure the survival of their species. Spiritually, human reproduction in the world has a deeper purpose: the fulfillment of God's plan on earth.

What does the command to subdue the earth mean?

The mandate to steward the earth means that humans are responsible for managing and managing the earth's natural resources. God placed humans at the center of the universe as the guardians and protectors of His creation. Since the earth is humanity's home, it is our duty to care for and preserve it.

How can we exercise dominion over fish, birds, and animals?

The commandment to have dominion over fish, birds, and animals means that humans have the power to manage and dominate the elements of nature. This is part of the role God has entrusted to humans. Dominion over fish, birds, and animals entails caring for them and respecting their role in the ecosystem. It also means ensuring their freedom and protecting them from exploitation and abuse.

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> Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.”

> — *Genesis 1:29*

Book: Old Testament / Genesis
Topics: Fruitfulness, food, life

Interpretation:
In this Bible verse, we see God’s goodness and care for the newly created humanity. After creating the entire earth, the heavens, the animals, and man, God gives them a blessing that will enable them to survive: every plant that bears seed, and every tree that bears fruit and sows seed.

Food is a basic human need, and this Bible verse shows us how God has already foreseen this need and has provided for it abundantly. Plants and trees are the sources of nutrients that are necessary for the growth and health of the human body.

This account clearly shows that eating herbs, i.e. vegetables and tree fruits, was originally permitted by God. The ability to eat meat and other non-plant foods was given to man later, after the flood, when the covenant was made with *Noah*.

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> Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.
> — *Habakkuk 3:17-18*

Book: Old Testament / Habakkuk
Topics: Fruitfulness, harvest, joy, Salvation, worship

Interpretation:
The book of Habakkuk is one of the shortest in the *Old Testament*, but it is no less profound and significant. In this prophet we find a call to reflect on the presence of God in the midst of adversity and suffering, and the verse before us is a perfect example of this.

In *Habakkuk 3:17-18*, the prophet describes a situation of extreme need and deprivation. However, despite the apparent desolation, the prophet speaks of an attitude of trust and hope in God.

In this sense, the verse can be interpreted as a call to faith in difficult times. Although all sources of sustenance seem to have disappeared, the prophet insists that God is still present and active in the lives of his people. This teaching is of great relevance in our times marked by uncertainty, economic crisis, and social and political conflicts.

But how can we find this joy in God? One of the best ways is through prayer and reading *God's word*. Through prayer, we can directly approach God and ask Him to give us the strength and wisdom we need to move forward. And by meditating on God's Word, we can remember the promises He has made to us and gain the fortitude we need to face life's challenges.

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> And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.
>
> — *Hebrews 11:11*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews
Topics: Fruitfulness, faith, reward, trust

Interpretation:
Hebrews 11:11 is a verse that is meaningful to those who believe in God's Word and His message. According to this verse, Sarah, Abraham's wife, who was barren, was able to conceive and give birth through her faith. Even though she was past the age of childbearing, she believed that God would keep His promise.

Sarah's faith is an example of how faith in God can overcome any obstacle. Even in a society where barrenness was considered a vice, Sarah never stopped believing in God's promise. She remained faithful even in times of uncertainty and through her faith, she was given the strength to conceive.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.
>
> — *Hebrews 12:11*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews
Topics: Fruitfulness, children, harvest, peace, punishment, righteousness

Interpretation:
Hebrews 12:11 talks about divine discipline and justice. The writer of Hebrews compares God's discipline to that of an earthly father, although he points out that divine discipline is far more effective and just.

Why don't we find God's discipline a cause for joy?

The writer of Hebrews acknowledges that God's discipline can be painful and even sad. However, this does not mean that discipline is unnecessary or unhelpful. Discipline is necessary because it helps us grow and mature as Christians.

What does "the peaceable fruit of righteousness" mean?

This verse talks about the "peaceable fruit of righteousness," which is the result of divine discipline. This fruit is none other than the righteousness and spiritual maturity that we receive after God disciplines us. Discipline helps us turn from our wrongdoings, reject sin, and seek and do the will of God.

How can we apply this verse to our lives?

This verse encourages us to trust that God's discipline is for our good. If we are going through a difficult time in our lives, we can trust that God is working to help us grow and mature in our faith. Discipline is not something to be feared, but something to be embraced with humility and openness to God's will.

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> So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.
> — *Isaiah 55:11*

Book: Old Testament / Isaiah
Topics: Fruitfulness, reliability, speaking, Word of God

Interpretation:
Isaiah 55:11 is a promise from God about His Word. In this verse, God promises that His word will not return void, but will fulfill its purpose. God says that every word that comes out of His mouth has a purpose and function, and that word will not return to Him without fulfilling that purpose.

God's word is powerful and effective, and this promise assures us that we can always trust His word to fulfill its purpose.

How can this verse help us?

This verse can be a source of comfort and hope for those who are going through difficult times in their lives. Knowing that God's word will not return void means that we are never alone.

No matter what our situation, we can be confident that God has a plan and purpose for us. If we trust Him and His word, we can be confident that He will guide us and help us overcome any problem or difficulty.

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> Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.
> — *James 3:18*

Book: New Testament / James
Topics: Fruitfulness, harvest, peace, righteousness

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *James 3:18* tells us about the fruit of righteousness sown in peace for those who keep the peace. This verse is very relevant in everyday life, especially when we strive to live in harmony

with others and develop healthy relationships.

Context of the verse

To fully understand the meaning of this verse, it is important to study its context. James 3 talks about the power of the tongue and how the way we speak can affect others. The chapter begins with a warning of the judgment that will come upon those who are teachers and who use their tongues incorrectly. *James* also compares our tongue to a small fire that can cause great damage. Then, *James 3:13-18* introduces the idea that wisdom comes from God and is demonstrated through our actions. Genuine wisdom is peaceful, loving, compassionate, and fair, and results in the fruit of righteousness.

What does the fruit of righteousness sown in peace mean?

The fruit of righteousness refers to the rewards we receive when we do what is right. When we live in accordance with God's wisdom, our actions will produce positive fruits such as peace, justice, and harmony in our relationships.

Sowing is a process that involves taking steps to prepare for the future. By sowing in peace, we take steps to build a solid foundation for our relationships. When we sow in peace, we work to create an atmosphere of harmony and balance in our lives and in the lives of those around us.

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> But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.
> — *Jeremiah 17:7-8*

Book: Old Testament / Jeremiah
Topics: Fruitfulness, blessing, trust

Interpretation:
In Jeremiah 17, we can read a passage where the prophet uses the image of a tree planted by the waters to illustrate the importance of trusting in God and maintaining a strong and constant faith.

According to *Jeremiah 17:7-8*, the one who trusts in the Lord and trusts in Him will be like a tree planted by the springs of water, that can send out its roots by the stream and remain strong in times of adversity.

What does it mean to trust the Lord?

In the Bible, trusting the Lord means being completely dependent on Him, placing our faith and hope in Him, and recognizing that only He can guide us in the right direction. When we trust the Lord, we make a decision to leave our worries and anxieties in His hands and trust that He has a perfect plan for us.

It is important to note that trusting the Lord does not mean that we do nothing. Trusting God does not relieve us of the responsibility to make decisions and act accordingly. Rather, it means that we seek God's will and allow Him to direct our steps.

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> I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.
>
> *— John 15:1-2*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: Fruitfulness, obedience, sin

Interpretation:
John 15:1-2 presents us with a powerful metaphor in which *Jesus* compares himself to the true vine and God to the vinedresser. This image invites us to think deeply about the importance of staying connected to the true source of life.

The true source of life

Just as the branches of a vine must remain connected to the trunk to receive nutrients, we need to remain *connected to Jesus* to receive the breath and support we need to thrive.

In this passage, we see how God plays a critical role in our lives, just as the farmer cares for and nourishes the vine, so God cares for us and gives us the life we ??need.

The metaphor also emphasizes the importance of community and connection with other believers, since the branches of the vine cannot survive and bear fruit on their own, but must be connected to other branches and the main trunk.

Seeking a connection with God

These deeply symbolic verses encourage us to seek a deeper connection with our Creator through prayer, meditation, and the study of God's Word. Jesus reminds us that our journey of faith is not just about keeping commandments, but about finding that intimate connection with God that will allow us to bear abundant fruit.

Connecting with God also reminds us that we are part of something much greater than ourselves. The way we love and serve others is a reflection of our love and devotion to God. As part of the true vine, we must seek to do God's will in our lives and in the communities in which we live.

What does the branch represent?

In *John 15:2, Jesus* uses the branch as an analogy to illustrate an important lesson for his disciples. The branch represents believers, the vine represents Jesus, and the Father represents the vinedresser. The vinedresser's purpose is to care for believers so that they can grow and bear fruit in their lives.

What is fruit in the Bible analogy?

The *"fruit"* mentioned in the verse refers to the work and results of a believer's life. For example, fruits could be love, faith, kindness, patience, self-control, and other fruitful qualities of a Christian. A believer who bears this fruit is one who is in fellowship with Jesus and allows the Holy Spirit to work in his or her life.

What does it mean to "prun"?

The term *"pruning"* in this verse refers to pruning or removing parts of a plant or branch that are not producing fruit. This pruning may be painful for the plant, but it is necessary for its growth and development. This is true in our lives too. There are often attitudes and behaviors that can hinder our growth in God, and therefore our pruning is necessary.

Why is pruning and trimming important in our spiritual lives?

It is vital to realize that pruning and trimming are necessary to produce spiritual fruit. Jesus taught his disciples that we cannot grow on our own, we need someone to care for us and help us bear fruit in

our lives. The vinedresser is responsible for caring for his believers and nurturing them to produce abundant fruit.

How to bear more spiritual fruit?

To bear more spiritual fruit, we must remain in fellowship with Jesus. We must *connect with the vine (Jesus)* and maintain that contact. To the extent that we are committed, we will receive the nourishment and strength to grow and produce fruit.

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> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.
> *— John 15:16*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: Fruitfulness, calling, obedience, Prayer

Interpretation:
At first glance, these words of Jesus may seem confusing and difficult to understand. What does it mean that He chose us and appointed us to bear fruit? What does Jesus mean by **“fruit”** in this context? How can we apply this verse to our daily lives?

In the first part of the verse, Jesus declares that we did not choose Him, but He chose us. This is a fundamental truth of the Christian faith: *salvation is a divine gift, not a reward that we earn through our own merit*. It was God who took the initiative to redeem us and reconcile us to Him through the work of Jesus on the cross. Divine election is an expression of God’s love and grace toward us, even when we do not deserve it.

In the second part of the verse, Jesus tells us that He chose us to go and bear fruit. What do you mean by **“fruit”**? Fruit is often used as a metaphor in the Bible to describe the tangible results of living a God-directed life. This can include righteous deeds, converting sinners, making disciples, and personal spiritual growth.

So fruit is anything we do as Christians that has a positive and lasting result.

Furthermore, Jesus adds that this fruit is to remain. That is, our actions and efforts are to have a long-term impact on people's lives and on the expansion of God's kingdom. This is not about doing good deeds just to feel good temporarily, but about working diligently in God's plan and leaving an everlasting mark on the world.

Finally, Jesus tells us that whatever we ask the Father for in His name, He will give it to us. This is a powerful and comforting promise for any believer. The key to this promise is that we are to ask in Jesus' name. This means that our requests are to be in line with His will and purpose. This is not about asking for selfish or unnecessary things, but about seeking the well-being and blessing of others.

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> I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
> *— John 15:5*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: Fruitfulness, dependence, Jesus, reward, wine

Interpretation:
John 15:5 gives us one of the most beautiful and meaningful analogies of *Jesus* in His dealings with His followers. To understand this message, it is important to examine the symbolism behind the vine and its branches, as well as to reflect on our own spiritual lives.

The Vine as a Symbol of Life and Fertility

The vine appears frequently in the Bible and symbolizes life, abundance, and fertility. In the Old Testament, the imagery of the vine is used to describe the people of Israel, as in *Psalm 80:8-11: "You transplanted a vine from Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it, and it took root and filled the land. The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches. Its branches reached as far as the Sea, its shoots as far as the River."*

In this sense, the vine is seen as a source of life and blessing, but also as a responsibility to care for and protect it.

Branches as Representations of Believers

In Jesus' analogy, the branches are the believers who cooperate with the vine to bear fruit. As a branch of the vine, the shoot receives the sap and nutrients it needs to grow and develop. But it also has the responsibility to bear fruit, that is, to show signs of life and love through its actions and words.

The Importance of Abiding in Christ

To bear fruit, it is necessary to remain in Christ. The vine is the source of life and energy that enables the branches to bear fruit. Jesus himself says this in *verse 4: "Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."*

To maintain this connection with Christ, it is necessary to cultivate a life of prayer, Scripture reading, fellowship, and personal giving.

The Fruit of the Christian Life

The fruit that God expects from us is not limited to one thing. In fact, we can identify several types of fruit that should characterize our Christian life.

One of them is love, as it says in *John 15:9-10: "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love."*

Another important fruit is joy, as in *verse 11: "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." We also find peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)*.

The Danger of Separation

Finally, *John 15:5* reminds us that separation from Christ is a real and serious danger. When we lose sight of our connection to the vine, our growth is stunted and our spiritual life begins to wither. Sin, worldliness, and lack of commitment separate us from the source of life and leave us vulnerable to spiritual dryness and death.

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> This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.
>
> — *John 15:8*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: Fruitfulness, Evangelism, Father, following

Interpretation:
The *book of John* is one of the four Gospels of the New Testament and focuses on the life, ministry, and teachings of *Jesus Christ. Chapter 15* is one of the most important parts of John’s Gospel because it describes Jesus’ relationship with his disciples and the church, and how faith and fruitfulness are essential to maintaining that relationship.

In *verse 8, Jesus* tells his disciples about the importance of bearing much fruit and how this glorifies God. The fruit he is talking about is not necessarily the material things we can produce, but rather our actions and behavior as followers of Jesus and members of the church. It means being a good person, helping others, being compassionate, forgiving, and loving others as ourselves.

By bearing much fruit, we show that we are following Jesus’ commands and living according to Christian values. It is a way of expressing our gratitude for all that God has done for us. Furthermore, by bearing much fruit, we help others come to know Jesus and have a relationship with Him.

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> If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their fruit.
>
> — *Leviticus 26:3-4*

Book: Old Testament / Leviticus
Topics: Fruitfulness, blessing, harvest, law, obedience

Interpretation:

The Bible verses in *Leviticus 26:3-4* talk about the importance of keeping God’s commandments and applying them to our daily lives. This shows us that it is not enough to know *God’s Word*, but we must also keep it and follow it at all times.

Keep God’s commandments

When we walk in God’s commandments and keep them, we demonstrate our devotion and love for Him. These precepts do not only refer to the commands found in the Bible, but also to the principles and values ??that define a life filled with faith and love.

God’s blessings

Leviticus 26:3-4 are Bible verses that emphasize God's promise to send rain in due season so that the earth and the trees in the field can bear fruit. This phrase is one of the greatest promises God makes to His people, guaranteeing His provision and blessing in a constant and tangible way.

The meaning of rain in the Bible

In the Bible, rain symbolizes God’s provision for human life and the renewal of the earth. Throughout biblical history, rain served as a symbol of God’s blessing on His people, especially in times of drought, famine, and need.

In other words, the book of Deuteronomy says that the lack of rain is a sign of God’s anger toward His people: *“Then the Lord’s anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the Lord is giving you” (Deuteronomy 11:17)*. Rain plays an important role in the lives of people in the Bible, and its presence is seen as a reminder of divine providence and care.

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> The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.
>
> — *Matthew 13:22*

Book: New Testament / Matthew

Topics: Fruitfulness, money, temptation, Word of God, worrying

Interpretation:
To better understand *Matthew 13:22*, it is important to know the context in which it was written. *Jesus* uses the parable of the sower to illustrate the different types of hearts that receive the Word of God.

One of the hearts Jesus mentions is one that was planted among thorns. The seed in this heart begins to grow, but then it is choked by the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches.

The Problems of This Century

One of the problems that dominates Jesus' narrative is the concept of worldly cares. The deception of wealth draws us into worldly cares and distances us from God.

If we allow these cares to dominate us, our growth in faith can be stunted and suffocated. When worldly cares begin to become our primary concern, our spiritual growth becomes secondary and we can forget about what is truly important.

The Deception of Riches

Jesus also mentions the deceitfulness of riches along with worldly cares. Wealth can become a hindrance to our relationship with God if we are not careful. Material possessions can be deceiving because once we have them, we can fall into the trap of thinking that we don't need anything else.

We can begin to think that our material possessions satisfy all our needs. The problem is that while physical wealth may provide temporary satisfaction, it will never be enough to meet the eternal needs of our soul.

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> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.
> — *Matthew 3:8*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: Fruitfulness, conversion, life, repentance

Interpretation:

The Bible passage in *Matthew 3:8* is found in the context of the preaching of *John the Baptist*, who exhorted the multitudes to repent of their sins and be baptized as a symbol of their decision to change their lives. This verse is a call to action for those who had responded to his message.

In this verse, John the Baptist focuses on the need to *produce fruits* that demonstrate genuine repentance. In other words, it is not enough to say that one repents of one's sins; there must be clear evidence of a change in behavior and lifestyle. This indicates that repentance is an active process that requires a response in our daily lives.

The idea of ??producing fruit is not new to the Bible. In *Galatians 5:22-23*, we are told of *the fruits of the Spirit, which include love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control*. These fruits are the result of a life transformed by the Holy Spirit and are a visible expression of our faith in action.

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> The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.
>
> *— Proverbs 18:21*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: Fruitfulness, blessing, self-control, speaking

Interpretation:
The Bible repeatedly mentions the importance of controlling our words because they can have a significant impact on our lives and the lives of others. *Proverbs 18:21* illustrates this well.

What does this verse mean?

This verse teaches us that our tongue can have serious consequences, both positive and negative. It is a powerful tool, but it must be used wisely.

If we cultivate a loving and constructive tongue, we will live a fruitful life and enjoy its benefits. But if we use our tongue carelessly and harmfully, we will reap misery and negativity.

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