



THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

GARRY TYLER
(PART TWO)

Continued from the September 2022 article.

Goodness

Goodness is the quality of being morally good or virtuous, having desired qualities, being well-behaved, dutiful, and worthwhile. Psalms 27:13, *"I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living."* The story of Joseph is an example of moral goodness and virtue. His brothers hated him so much that they put him in a pit, and sold him to Midianite traders. When Joseph went down to Egypt God was with him. He stayed in Potiphar's house and became head of the house. The scripture indicates that Joseph was an attractive young man. Potiphar's wife was attracted to him, so much so that multiple times she implored him to commit adultery with her. Joseph resisted her advances reminding her that her husband was his boss

and he could not do such a thing. Joseph stood on the moral ground that God had given him because he knew right from wrong. That is what God is asking us to do today, to know what is right and what is wrong and do accordingly.

Your parents have taught you what is right and what is wrong even though you didn't like it. My parents taught me what was right and wrong, even though I did not agree with them, and as I said earlier, I put them to the test quite a few times. When I was younger, we were not allowed to go to dances, but I had a friend who was going to play the records at the dance on Friday night. I decided I was going to go with him. So off to the hockey game I went. I went down to the arena and bought a ticket to the game. My mother would listen to the games so all I needed to get right was the score of the game and who scored some of the goals. I got

a ticket and off to the dance I went. After the dance, I went back to the hockey game. My mom and dad had a certain route that they would take home whenever they went out. It never changed except for that night. I got caught. I guess God can use others to teach us His ways. I asked them why they went home that way. They had never gone home that way. They said something told us to go home that way tonight.. Moral goodness, moms and dads, teach it to your kids. Kids learn to grab hold of it and accept it. Parents are not teaching it to their children to make their lives miserable, but are teaching it for a reason.

Returning to the story of Joseph, where did he end up as a result of making the right choice? He ended up in jail. How long was he in jail? Well, it was at least two years and maybe longer. When he was in jail he interpreted two dreams by God's revelation, and he was right. Pharaoh had a dream and his servant remembered that there was a man who told him the meaning of his dream. Maybe he could tell Pharaoh his dream. So after Pharaoh's dreams had been interpreted, what happened to Joseph? He was promoted to second in command in Egypt. I am using this as an example of standing on moral ground. It does not matter what is going on around you. It does not matter if everyone else is doing it. You should know the difference. If God said it is wrong, then don't do it and He will bless you with the fruit of peace, joy, love, goodness and kindness.

Longsuffering

Longsuffering is patience and not being not easily provoked.

We know that patience is learned through trials and tribulations. Patience is not being easily provoked. How many of you like someone who is deliberately annoying you? God is trying to teach you the lesson of patience. I had this happen to me every day after I started a new job. Somebody would do the same thing to me, trying to get me upset. A book would end up on the chair that I would sit on. Every day I would pick up the book and throw it in the garbage. The very next day it would be back and I would throw it in the garbage. This went on for almost two years until he realized that he was not going to get to me and that the book was always going to end up in the garbage. The annoying behavior stopped. No one enjoys being treated unkindly, but someone is always going to test the stand you have taken. Their whole goal is to get you to change your stand. God is saying, "Don't move,

be patient." As I said earlier, God has you covered. God will give you peace, no matter where you are and no matter what happens.

Now when we think of longsuffering, Job comes to mind. What did Job do to deserve his suffering? Nothing. It was God who said to Satan, "Have you seen Job? He is a faithful servant." Well", said Satan, "*the only reason he is like that is because you are protecting him*" (Job 1:8-10). God's protection is upon all of us. Sometimes we all need to be tested to see where we really stand. Now, that is difficult to understand, but don't let anyone or anything change your stand with God.

Job 30:26-27, "*But when I looked for good, evil came to me; And when I waited for light, then came darkness. My heart is in turmoil, and cannot rest; Days of affliction confront me.*" Now, there is some very deep turmoil here, but Job never wavered. Job's wife said, "*Curse God and die!*" But he said to her, "*You speak as one of the foolish women speaks*" (Job 2:9-10). God allowed it to happen and Job knew that God had him covered. Even in the darkness, even in the turmoil, he knew that God had him covered. Even when all of his friends told him to blame God, he knew that the trials were only for a time. Sometimes in the trials we are going through, we don't exhibit longsuffering and patience, but as I am getting older and starting to understand, it does not matter what I am going through, God is looking after me. He wants to teach me patience, He wants to teach me kindness. He wants to teach me this because, as we go back to the beginning, "I am the Vine, you are the branches." What happens to the bad branches? They get cut off and are burned. God does not want that to happen to you.

Colossians 1:10-11, "*That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy.*" Longsuffering with joy! When you are going through trials and tribulations, be joyful. This is sometimes a difficult request. We are still human and God understands that. He knows we are not always going to be joyful when He is sanding off the rough edges. 2 Peter 3:15, "And consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation." Everything that God allows us to go through is for our salvation.

Faithfulness

Faithfulness is trust and complete acceptance of the truth which cannot be demonstrated or proven by the process of logical thought. Try and explain this move of God to someone who does not understand it. It cannot be explained by logical thought unless God is tugging at their heart.

There is a young man that I work with. We were out on a job working for someone else. When I shut off the tractor, one of the people we were working for was giving this young man a full-blown church service. When the job was done he asked me what I thought of what was said. I could only tell him what I knew and what I believed. When he was done listening to the answers that I gave him, he still had a total look of confusion on his face. He did not understand. I know that there will be more questions down the road. When I think about faithfulness, my thoughts focus on doing what we say we are going to do. If you say you are going to do something, do it. Now, what has that got to do with faithfulness? It has a lot to do with it. How do people build up their faith in you? It is by knowing and understanding that you are faithful in what you say and do. If I tell somebody that I will be at their place to help them, I will stop what I am doing to go help them. If you say you are going to do something, do it.

What is a faithful friend? They are someone who is with you through thick and thin, and it does not matter what you are going through, they are there to support and love you. Now, Christ is a faithful friend who will never leave you nor forsake you. No matter where you go, or what you do, He is there. I will tell you a story that my father often told. When I was a teenager I did not want to go to church. The last place that I wanted to be was in church. Now, my father said that as long as I lived under his roof I would go to church. I decided that if I had to go to church, I would just sleep. His answer was that there was no better place to sleep than under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. I did sleep, but here I stand today under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. What God wants from us is to be faithful. 2 Corinthians 1:20, *"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."*

Self-control

Self-control is the ability to exercise the will so as to prevent oneself from expressing strong emotions or getting impulsive.

Now you can ask my wife and she will tell you the truth. I had a very nasty and mean temper. There was a situation when I was young that my temper got the better of me. From that day to this I have never lost my temper. God helped me find His way. If you do not show self-control in your life, in what you do and how you walk, you do not know how much you could lose.

Jesus spoke the words of His father and did the things that pleased His Father (John 8:28-29). Even when He went into the temple and drove out the money changers, He was cleansing the temple and doing His Father's will (Matthew 21:12). *"And he said to them. 'It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer; but you have made it a den of thieves'"* (Matthew 21:13).

Often Jesus was silent. How could He be silent when He was going through pain and hurt? Jesus had self-control because He had peace. The peace of God was in Him, and He also knew that there was a greater purpose in His life than what He was going through. This is the same with all of us. There is a greater purpose in our lives than what we are going through right now. I like the saying, "Don't worry about what you are going through because this, too, shall pass." Remember, patience comes through experiencing trial and tribulation. How would we know God's love if we did not go through them? If everything was always going right, if everything was perfect, how would we know how to trust God? God allows us to go through things so we can learn to trust Him. Some people, who are pushing you to the left or to the right, want a reaction out of you. They want you to get angry or they want you to be discouraged and confused. When I was younger, I played hockey, football, rugby and wrestling. They were all rough sports. I did not have self-control as a teenager, but God wants us to learn self-control.

2 Timothy 3:1-5, *"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure, rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"*

2 Peter 1:5-8, *"But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge,*

to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 5:10, *“Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble.”*

Now we will go back to John 15:5, *“I am the Vine.”* Christ has given us every opportunity to abide in the Vine. He has told us what the fruit is, and we are to support that fruit. We produce the fruit that He has asked us to produce. *“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law”* (Galatians 5:22-23). If we produce this fruit, He will give us all our desires because our desires will have changed from that of a natural man into that of a spiritual man. *“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit”* (Galatians 5:25). Let us do that which God has asked us to do. How can we learn to walk in the Spirit if we don’t spend time in the Spirit? God has a purpose for our lives. The toughest book that I find to read is the Bible. If I want to fall asleep, I just open up the Bible and start reading. So I’ve learned to read in the morning. God has a purpose for our lives. He says to just keep walking and He will give us love, joy and peace. In times of trouble, He will be there. We may not see Him or feel Him, but He is there, and He is ready, willing and able to give us the peace we need.

When Peter stepped off the boat and looked at Christ, he could walk on water. It was when he started to look at the storm that peace disappeared and he sank. It is only when we keep our eyes focused on Jesus, when we give our hearts to Him, that we can be secured in His love and ability to carry us through. I do not remember when I gave my heart to Christ. There are many people who do remember. What I remember is when I was dating my wife, I told her that if she wanted to go out with me she had to come to my church and she did. I remember her saying to me that if I wanted to marry her, I had to give my heart to the Lord. I did, and both were the best decisions that I ever made. God should be number one in your personal life and as a married couple, God comes first.

This is how God wants us to walk so that we can bear fruit because in this day and age we are going to be like a shining light on a hill. God is saying that our light should not be hidden (ref. Matthew 5:14-16). He is not asking us to do anything fantastic, not to change the world, but He will use the fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in us. He wants us to be an example, to abide in that which He has for us and to love Him. The greatest gift of all is to love. That is why he put it first in the fruit of the Spirit. Abide in Him so we don’t get cut away. Sometimes the pruning hurts as He takes away that which we don’t need. By His Spirit, the fruit of the Spirit grows.

“Abide in me so that I may abide in you” (John 15:4). 

GLOBAL MISSIONS INC.

Global Missions Inc. was founded in 1944, as a Christian mission to promote and encourage the preaching of the gospel to every creature.

Global Missions reaches into many countries in Africa, India, the Caribbean, the United States of America, South America and the Philippines. These local churches are established on the foundational truths revealed in God’s word and through His unfolding revelation. Local churches are governed by local residents who are referred to as elders.

Global Missions is a nondenominational Christian church.

Headquarters:
802 Airport Road
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Z3 Canada

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 934
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Z3 Canada

Telephone:
(306) 445-2733

Email:
info@globalmissionsinc.org

Online:
www.globalmissionsinc.org

Traveling Ministry Contact List:
www.globalmissionsinc.org/about

SHARON

The Sharon Star is a monthly publication and mailed as a free-will offering plan. The articles within are intended for inspiration and information to those who are interested in the unfolding revelation of the Word of God.

Published by:
Global Missions Inc. in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada.

The Sharon Star is found online at:
www.globalmissionsinc.org/sharon-star

Publications Mail Agreement 40012206

Subscribe by mail or online.