

Soul Fruit

Colossians 1:3-14

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I. Growth Happens Because of Him vs. 3-8

Growth- The process of spiritual transformation, becoming more like Christ in character, wisdom, and behavior as God intends.

1. The truth of the gospel makes growth possible.

- A. Thankful heart.
- B. Persist in Prayer.
- C. Faith in Christ.
- D. Love for Others.

2. The gospel gives us hope.

- A. Help for us today & assurance for us tomorrow.
- B. Hope changes our perspective and conduct.
 - The Holy Spirit produces “fruit” in believers’ lives.
 - Grace is the soil in which the seed of faith grows.
- C. Love is the sign of maturing faith, which is unmistakable and unpluckable.
 - How we love communicates what we believe to be true about God - Our choices must be guided by the gospel.

II. Growth Comes Through Him vs. 9-12

1. Growth is God’s desired result.

- A. God will supply wisdom and understanding to those who intentionally seek and surrender to Him.

2. Spiritual wisdom and understanding are needed to live right.

- A. Head knowledge of God’s will and Word alone does not transform us.
 - A full and deep understanding of God’s Word cannot come from an unrenewed mind.

3. Our calling and character should be in balance.

- A. Holiness is the standard—Become consumed with meeting that standard.
- B. Faithfulness to God produces fruit and favor.

- The Holy Spirit helps us live out God's Word through providing: 1) Revelation 2) Discernment 3) Empowerment 4) Endurance.

III. Growth Begins in Him vs. 13-14

1. God causes and assures us of our salvation.
 - A. Growth begins at the point of salvation.
 - B. Despite us being undeserving and unworthy, God willingly chose to rescue us.
 - C. In Christ, there is true freedom to grow.