LESSION 21 21:05:17

Theme: FRUITLESSNESS BRINGS COMDEMNATION & JUDGMENT

Memory Verse: *Matthew 3:10 "And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire".*

Texts: Proverbs 11:26; Isaiah 5:6-7

Why is fruitlessness judged? First, God has put within everyone fig (saved soul) the ability to bear fruit. Secondly, through the rain of heaven, the water of the Word, the saved soul is equipped to bear fruit al all seasons. Thirdly, the believer is "chosen and ordained" so that he can go and bear fruit and that his fruit may abound. Fourthly, God makes available some spiritual nutrients to all (faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and charity -2 Peter 1:5, 8) so that whoever is fruitless has no excuse. Fifthly, fruitlessness can as well be a sign of lifelessness- "any branch in me that beareth not fruit, He taketh away." "If a man abideth not in me, he is cast forth as a branch…" Sixthly, fruitlessness does not glorify God and indeed, is contrary to His principle and plans. Seventh, it leads to death and extinction.

The unfruitful will be: (1) cursed, rejected and may not bear fruit any more (Mathew 21:19), (2) cut down (Luke13:7); (3) taken away from the vine (John 15:2); (4) cast off as a branch, withers and cast into fire (John 15:6); (5) made waste and desolate (Isaiah 5:5-6). What are the possible causes of fruitlessness?, bankruptcy, ineptitude and carelessness, lack of spiritual vision, neglect of available means of fruitfulness, detachment from the true vine, self-centredness and despondency, spiritual derailment and loss of first love.

When a believer begins to skip fellowship, quiet time, spiritual exercises of prayer, Bible reading, evangelism, he is living in danger. Those that wander from place to place in search of signs and wonders will soon go dry. Grumbling, murmuring, complaining, fault-finding, backbiting etc dry the soul and make one fruitless. When we lose our vision of heaven, we begin to dry up. When ever we fall victim to what we have learn today, then we bring condemnation and judgment upon ourselves.

DAILY BIBLE READING		
	MORNING	EVENING.
MON.	Num. 11	2 Cor. 7
TUS.	Num. 12	2. Cor. 8.
WED.	Num. 13	2 Cor. 9.
THUR.	Num. 14	2. Cor. 10
FRI.	Num. 15	2. Cor. 11
SAT.	Num. 16	2. Cor. 12
SUN.	Num. 17	2 Cor 13