

The Diseased Tree

Sameach — I'm thankful that our God is a God of mercy and kindness. I heard a wise saying the other day, "Mercy smiles in the face of judgment," and it made me think about our Father's mercy. I'm thrilled that I have something to do with my life today. I was needed to get up early and help load the Red Wagon [*produce truck*]. It didn't make me mad that I was needed. I've lived a lot of days when I wasn't needed and it didn't matter what I did. But now my life matters; it has consequential effect. I'm just thankful that I'm joined to a people, and that I have a place to belong, and that I know the God of mercy. It really makes me want to be merciful and kind. I want to live for our Master today, and live for you.

ha-êmeq — "You know a tree by its fruit" — you *know* a tree by its fruit. That is one of the wise sayings of our Master Yahshua. "Mercy smiles in the face of judgment" is another one of those wise sayings that we build our life on here. Our Master said it so simply, "You know a tree by its fruit." I'd say, "I know there is a God in heaven," because I heard Sameach say that, because that's a certain kind of fruit — a person having a purpose in life, who used to have zero purpose. Someone might say, "Why don't you just try getting yourself a different job? Or maybe you can go to a psychiatrist or something. Maybe Prozac would help you." What can you offer to a man with a purposeless existence? But what Sameach said made me say, "I know there's a God in heaven. I know a tree by its fruit."

Our Master said, "*A good tree can't bear bad fruit, and a bad tree can't bear good fruit*" (Mt 7:18-19). In some translations, it says "a diseased tree can't bear good fruit." A diseased tree starts out as a good tree. A good tree can *become* diseased, and the fruit that comes from that tree becomes genetically modified. How does the fruit become genetically modified? Or, how do *we* become modified? The evil one exerts a modifying influence on us. We were a good tree, and then something happened — we were *touched* by the evil one (1 Jn 5:18, NKJ). Therefore, we have to keep ourselves from the evil one's touch, because he attaches himself to us, like a disease infecting a tree.

Or as in 2 Cor 11:3, we become betrothed to him. We're either betrothed to our Master, or literally, we've become betrothed or "attached" to someone else. When we allow someone or something to *touch* us, the evil one exerts a modifying influence on us.

If Christianity is a tree that hasn't been cut down yet, is it a *diseased* tree? It sure seems to be a diseased tree, since it produces genetically modified fruit — *really bad fruit!* So it's settled: Christianity is not a good tree, because it produces bad fruit.

Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. (Mt 7:17-18, NKJ)

So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. (Mt 7:17-18, ESV)

So therefore something will come into our midst. Beware of people who aren't under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, who produce or bring something in that's false. They come in disguise. They disguise themselves as preachers or messengers of righteousness. Paul said, "Even from among yourselves, brothers, men will arise and lead others astray" (Acts 20:28-31) and genetically modify the church. And that is exactly what happened — maybe 40 years after Paul said that, it happened. They left their first love, didn't they?

Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place — unless you repent. (Rev 2:4-5)

The lampstand was taken out of the way and there was no longer *any light* coming forth from that place. It continued to be a light, but it was a *false* light and led people astray. From then on, *no one* was added to their number with the Holy Spirit. Certainly, they had many Christian converts, but no one received the Holy Spirit after the lampstand was taken out of the way, out of each place. The true light was taken out from this place, this place, this place...

We'll even see this in our Twelve Tribes. There will be some communities that will lose their lampstand, when the true light is no longer shining forth to the people around them. They might have a good message, and they might even baptize people, but they won't receive the Holy Spirit. There will be no love there. This will even happen among

us, but we have to do everything we can to prevent it. We have to do everything we can to keep the tree healthy — to produce good fruit.

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? (Mt 7:15-16)

Beware of false prophets — not just someone who says, “I’m a prophet,” but someone who is not under the anointing, who brings a different message. A prophet is a kind of messenger; he’ll come to you “*in sheep’s clothing*,” in disguise, “*but inwardly he is like a ravenous wolf*.” But you will know them by their fruits. “You” will know them — who will? *You!* If we’re alert, we’ll know them by their fruits. “*Are figs gathered from thorns, or grapes from thistles?*” Well, no... are they? “*In the same way, every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.*”

Of course, we know that it is already prophesied in Rev 17:16 and 18:8 and Mt 13:30 that Christianity will be cut down and thrown into the fire. It is a *diseased tree*; it produces genetically modified fruit. You can’t receive life from it; it’s dead fruit. This is what is going on in the world. Genetically modified fruit comes from a diseased tree, and a diseased tree comes from being “touched.” Satan can touch us; he can attach himself to us and genetically modify our fruit — the fruit that comes forth from us.

As our Master said, if we bear good fruit, a lot of fruit (30, 60, or 100-fold), that fruit is going to prove we are His disciples (Jn 15:8). It proves we are His disciples if we bear *much* fruit. We have to bear *much* fruit, and that takes a culture — that takes cultivating. It goes right back to the ground, to the root system, and comes forth from the vine into the branches, into the sprouts, into the clusters, producing good, healthy grapes. That’s the fruit, and that’s what our Father wants. He nourishes the Son, the Son nourishes the apostles, and the apostles nourish the churches, and then the fruit is borne.

It wouldn’t be any good just to have the Vine. The Father is the Cultivator, the Son is the Vine, and He doesn’t want to be just by Himself, and the apostles don’t want

to be just by themselves, but we have to bear fruit! For what? To fill the universe with humanity, made in His image. Our Father created people in His image to fill the universe, whenever the universe is habitable. It is not habitable right now, but it will be habitable in time, just as He said in Rev 21:1. It will become habitable after the Father, the Word, and the Spirit inhabit the Twelve Tribes — the Body of Messiah. The Twelve Tribes is the Wife of the Lamb. Divinity will inhabit the Husband and the Wife. Our Master is the Husband and we're the Wife. Man (the nations) will be restored, those who are worthy of a second life, and they'll fill the universe. They'll fill the earth and the solar system, and then colonize to the next galaxy, and the next galaxy, and they'll keep continuing on forever and ever, filling the whole universe with humanity.

And then of course, the Lamb and His Wife will also be multiplying. Maybe as many cells as there are in our body, we will be multiplied. Why do we have to be multiplied? The nations will keep on populating, so we will also have to populate, according to Isa 9:7 and Ps 102:28, but how?

But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him" — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. (1 Cor 2:9-10)

It's almost too much for us to understand, isn't it? "*Eyes have not seen*" — we've never seen it; "*ears have not heard*" — except now; "*never has it entered into the heart of man what God has prepared for...*" Who? Those who *love Him* — not those who became Christians to go to heaven, but for those who *love Him*, and do His will, and produce the *fruit*. And what is that fruit? You know a tree by its fruit – not genetically modified fruit. We just want to be a tree that produces good fruit.

If you bought an apple today, in a grocery store, and kept the seed and planted it, what would happen? [*Nothing.*] Exactly. It won't even produce. They don't want you to have any seeds. You have to buy your seeds from Monsanto.

Shoer — The false prophets who are not under the anointing still have a message, but it can't produce new life. It's like fruit in a grocery store that

is genetically modified, grown from a seed with a terminator gene. Their seeds will not sprout.

The seed carries the blueprint. Even if it's just a little dot, when you plant it, something happens as that seed dies. It actually produces this little sprout, and that sprout grows into something. If it's from a good seed, then you can take its seeds and you can plant them, and they produce more of the same kind.

If there is life in that plant, if it is healthy, then it will resist disease. It will resist all the things that will try to leech the life out of it — parasites or diseases or whatever — that try to modify the plant. That's how these spirits act through another gospel, another Yahshua. They're like diseases, like pathogens that want to attach themselves to us, to modify us to where we'll keep going on and it looks like we're still alive, but we stop bearing fruit.

Even historians say that from the second to the fifth century the church grew beyond recognition, but they see it as a developmental process, as if that was good that they no longer lived communally. Ten years ago we went over for the kibbutz conference in Israel. The kibbutz movement had started in the early 30's when the Jews first went back over there, and they lived in community. They had to band together and work really hard. But once the nation was established, they didn't live in kibbutz anymore. And they act like it's a good thing, a developmental process, that now they don't have to live together anymore.

Zerubbabel — In that comparison to Monsanto, you buy a seed from them, and when it grows, it doesn't germinate; it's sterile. So you have to go back to Monsanto to get more of their seed. You can see the parallel with what happened to the first church. As our Master prophesied in Mt 13:25, "An enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat." There were more people in the pews, but they had no life and couldn't reproduce life. So to keep filling the pews, they had to go back to "Monsanto" to get some more seed. In order for the churches to keep growing, they had to come up with some new evangelism scheme, some new gimmick, as Paul said of the hucksters in 2 Cor 2:17 and 4:2.

You can just see how that happened over the years. There was no more organic growth coming forth from the early church, so they had to add to it by trickery, by some masquerade, some gimmick. And if you've

drifted around in Christianity for awhile, there is one trick after another. Go into any Christian bookstore and you will see the latest evangelistic campaign. This is like going back to the evil one, for his seed that will produce something, but it is never able to reproduce by the power of love. Looking back in history, you can see that one of those tricks was to bring them in by the sword — forget evangelism.

Yônêq — Surrender to the right doctrine, or I'll cut your head off...

Zerubbabel — Right, but now it's more subtle; you die a different kind of death. Monsanto expresses in the physical world what's happening in the spiritual — the diseased tree of Christianity. The only way it is able to add to its numbers is to go back to Monsanto, to the evil one, for another evangelistic gimmick to add to the church, and add to the bank account, and add to the glory of the clever masquerader who found a new way — “The Purpose-Driven Life,” “Your Best Life Now,” or back in my days in Christianity it was “Evangelism Explosion” and the “I Found It” campaign. These things just sweep through the churches.

That is why we need to have the School of Prophets. We have to take this, and put it down on paper for people to understand it. If we don't have revelation, we'll go on without any progress whatsoever — our progress will be hindered, and no one will be delivered from “her” (Rev 18:1-2). “Her” is the Harlot that's connected to the world. Her relationship is with the world and the world system. She *became* a harlot. *Became* always indicates transition. She became a harlot. Just a little thing creeps in, and that's how it becomes something else.