

Yield Pt 1 the quality of seed & soil effects the yield

This is our first study on the word yield. In this teaching we establish the meaning of the word yield and three points (1) when we till the ground it yields strength, (2) trees yield fruit, (3) Some seeds yield no fruit, others one hundred fold.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. When we till the ground it yields her strength

“When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth” (Gen.4: 12).

2. Trees yield fruit

“And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, [and] the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good” (Gen.1: 11, 12).

3. The quantity of fruit yielded is determined by the quality of the ground

“And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit” (Mk.4: 7).

Illustration

When a botanist plants a seed – providing they water it, it will grow into a plant, a tree that is directly related to the seed. For example –

If an orchardist plants an **apple tree**, and the seed is good, not damaged, is sown in fertile ground and watered, it will grow and only yield apples and never oranges.

After 20 or 40 years experience the orchardist will know by the quality of the seeds, and quality of nutrients – which trees will yield a healthy crop of fruit. Some will bring forth 5 fruit and others 50 and others 100 fold.

Questions to think about.

- i) What are the reasons for a poor yield of fruit from a Christian today?
- ii) Why should a born again believer, come out of Roman Catholicism?

Answers from the scriptures

i) The quality of the **seed** sown affects the yield – E.g. where the preacher adds baptism as a requirement to the gospel of Christ-crucified and taints the seed. The quality of the **soil** affects the yield – “A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell ”by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it”. Some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, and some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it, and other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit (Lk.8: 5–15).

ii) A believer born again by the seed of the gospel of Christ-crucified should come out of Rome in obedience to the scriptures, and to enable them to yield good fruit and not evil fruit. Those that are not born of the Spirit of God are born of the devil, and will, and can only yield fruit of their father the devil (Jn.8: 44).

For those who have received the pure seed of the gospel and are feed on pure milk of the word they will yield good fruit. A question to think about for next week – what other ingredient related to our topic will affect a Christian’s yield of fruit?

Meaning–

To yield is to shoot forth

Eze 36:8 But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come.

To yield is to bring forth and bloom

Num 17:8 And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds.

To yield is to blossom

Hab 3:17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither [shall] fruit [be] in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and [there shall be] no herd in the stalls:

To yield is to submit or obey

2Chr 30:8 Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers [were, but] yield yourselves unto the Lord, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the Lord your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you.

To yield is to agree

Acts 23:21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

The opposite of yield is stiffnecked

“Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers [were, but] yield yourselves unto the Lord, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the Lord your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you” (2Chr.30:8

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Additional verses

A fountain cannot both yield salt water and fresh

“Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so [can] no fountain both yield salt water and fresh” (Jas.3: 12).

“For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes” (Lk.6: 43–44).

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? [17] Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. [18] A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. [19] Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. [20] Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. [21] Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven” (Matt.7: 15–21).