

## The Inscrutable Question: Redeeming Time: Walking as Children of Light; The Fruit of Light that Is Pleasing to the Lord, Eph 5:8-10

**Ephesians 5:8** - You were formally darkness [ σκότος / *skotos* /: refers to one's previous unregenerate status ], but now you are light in the Lord [ φῶς / *phos* /: union with Christ as a new spiritual species ]; walk [ περιπατέω / *peripateo* /: lifestyle produced by behavior patterns and character traits ] as children of light [ analogy for wheel-tracks of righteousness ].

**v. 9** - (Because the fruit of light [ καρπός + φῶς / *karpos* + *phos* /: production in the Christian walk from the source of divine viewpoint under the mentorship of the Holy Spirit ] is [ ellipsis: present active indicative of εἰμί / *eimi* ] produced in the sphere of goodness [ ἀγαθός / *agathos* /: the good; that which is profitable, beneficial, virtuous; the fulfillment of the plan of God ], and in the sphere of righteousness [ δικαιοσύνη / *dikaiousune* /: refers to the integrity of God or the love of God ], and in the sphere of truth [ ἀλήθεια / *aletheia* /: doctrine in the stream of consciousness ].)

Note that divine good production is the fruit that results from continuing the double-column advance all the way to spiritual maturity. However, it demands continual spiritual growth.

Please note that “goodness,” which is the fulfillment of the plan of God, is associated with the means of achieving that objective: “righteousness,” a component of the love of God or the right-column advance and “truth” which refers to knowledge of *ἐπίγνωσις* / *epignosis* / doctrine or the left-column advance.

All of this is accomplished within an environment that promotes spiritual growth:

- 1) Light is contrasted with darkness. Nothing grows in the dark but fungi. The purposes for light were established in Genesis 1:14 (a) to divine the day from the night, (b) to designate signs, seasons, days, and years, and (c) photosynthesis.
- 2) In the spiritual life “light” speaks of the status quo of spirituality made possible through rebound and executed by the filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 3) The three spiritual skills enable the believer to grow in grace and accumulate truth in his stream of consciousness.
- 4) Simultaneously, knowledge of doctrine reveals to us the love of God, which motivates a reciprocal motivation to learn more about God.
- 5) The end result is spiritual maturity, or *πλήρωμα* / *pleroma* / status, which is the fulfillment of the plan of God, i.e., “goodness.”
- 6) Fulfillment occurs when spiritual growth reaches the level of spiritual maturity by means of the double-column advance.
- 7) This spiritual growth may be characterized by comparing it with the process of photosynthesis, defined as follows by:

*Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 15<sup>th</sup> ed., s.v. “Photosynthesis”:

During photosynthesis in green plants, light energy [filling of the Holy Spirit plus spiritual IQ plus GAP] is captured and used to convert [through the mentorship of the Holy Spirit] water [doctrine learned in the left column], carbon dioxide [comparable to the volitional decision to reject the lie: μετανοέω / *metanoeeo* /: to change one's mind], and minerals [motivation from reciprocal love for God in the right column] into oxygen [maximum doctrine in the stream of consciousness].

Without photosynthesis [spiritual growth], the earth's atmosphere would be devoid of oxygen [divine viewpoint]. All living cells convert food into energy and structural components necessary for life [comparable to the Grace Apparatus for Perception]; if plant photosynthesis were to stop [the spiritual advance of positive believers], most living things would disappear from the earth in a few years [confirmed by the events of the Tribulation].

The chemical energy and electrical energy [electro-chemical compounds] used by brain cells [or neurons to fire electro-chemical signals across synapses that result in wheel-tracks of righteousness] were once sunlight that was absorbed by the chlorophyll in green plants.

The light of Bible doctrine is converted into long-term memory traces, which we call wheel-tracks of righteousness, by means of sunlight, which enables the brain to function as the hard disk for the soul. Just as plants produce fruit likewise does the believer who advances in the light by means of spiritual growth. The fruit produced is divine good and is characterized by maximum glorification of God and occupation with the Person of Christ.

**v. 9 - (Because the fruit of light [ καρπός + φῶς / *karpos + phos* /: production in the Christian walk from the source of divine viewpoint under the mentorship of the Holy Spirit ] is [ ellipsis: present active indicative of εἰμί / *eimi* ] produced in the sphere of goodness [ ἀγαθός / *agathos* /: the good; that which is profitable, beneficial, virtuous; the fulfillment of the plan of God ], and in the sphere of righteousness [ δικαιοσύνη / *dikaiosune* /: refers to the integrity of God or the love of God ], and in the sphere of truth [ ἀλήθεια / *aletheia* /: doctrine in the stream of consciousness ].)**

**v. 10 - Demonstrating what is acceptable to the Lord.**

- 1) Once the believer advances to spiritual maturity he begins to demonstrate what is pleasing to the Lord. That demonstration has to do with the production of fruit mentioned in verse 9. The word “demonstrating” is the present active indicative of the verb:

**δοκιμάζω / *dokimazo* /** - To be approved after examination and trial; to examine critically. To scrutinize with a view toward making an evaluation of the quality, character, worth, and significance of a thing.

NOTE: This is where the idea of proving one's salvation by “showing your fruits” is revealed as a heresy. A spiritual fruit is the result of spiritual growth. Once spiritual maturity is attained then the believer demonstrates what is acceptable to the Lord. No demonstration is possible without spiritual growth. No spiritual growth is possible without salvation.

Present: Plus the indicative mood indicates that the action of demonstrating that which is pleasing to the Lord occurs simultaneously with the action of the main verb. The main verb is found in verse 9. It is the elliptical εἰμί / *eimi* / which defines the qualities produced by light. The production is called: καρπός / *karpos* /: fruit.

We have established that the fruit of light is the divine viewpoint of the adult spiritual life. Mature believers produce this fruit by having thoughts, making decisions, and taking actions based on their maximum knowledge of truth. In doing so they simultaneously demonstrate that which is pleasing to the Lord.

Active: The fruit of divine good produces the action by demonstrating acceptable behavior patterns and character traits from a lifestyle based on wheel-tracks of righteousness.

Indicative: A statement of biblical fact.

- 2) Note that it is not really the mature believer that demonstrates what is pleasing to the Lord but fruit of divine viewpoint.

- 3) The subject of the main verb in verse 9 is “fruit”—“the fruit of light is”—and represents divine viewpoint.
- 4) Thus the fruit produced is described as (1) goodness: fulfilling the plan of God or **πλήρωμα** / **pleroma** /, (2) righteousness: advancing in the right column motivated by reciprocal love *for* God, and (3) truth: advancing in the left column by learning Bible doctrine.
- 5) Light, or spirituality, is the environment in which divine viewpoint is produced and includes the filling of the Holy Spirit and His mentorship in the Grace Apparatus for Perception.
- 6) The mature believer by means of grace produces the fruit of light under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.
- 7) When he does, the divine viewpoint expressed becomes a demonstration of those things that are pleasing to the Lord.