

## Gospel Fruit

Colossians 1:5b-8

by Bob DeWaay  
Gospel of Grace Fellowship

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### The Gospel as the Word of Truth

Colossians 1:5b (NASB)

... of which you previously heard in **the word of truth**, the gospel

- This means that the “word of truth” IS the gospel
- See John 17:17, 19
- See Psalm 119:41-43

Gospel Fruit: Colossians 1:5b-82

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### The Gospel Bears Fruit Everywhere

Colossians 1:6a (NASB)

which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly **bearing fruit and increasing**, ...

- Bearing fruit and growing are of the very essence and nature of the gospel
- The gospel advances both spiritually and geographically

Gospel Fruit: Colossians 1:5b-83

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## Colossians 1:5b-8

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### The Gospel Graciously Works in Believers

Colossians 1:6b (NASB)

even as it has been doing **in you** also since the day you **heard** of it and **understood the grace of God in truth**;

- The gospel works dynamically in the Christian
- Many “hear” externally but not all hearers “comprehend” (*epigino\_sko\_*) or “fully know”
- The gospel of truth is the gospel of grace
- The gospel is both true and has life changing power

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### Faithful Epaphras Brought Them the Gospel

Colossians 1:7 (NASB)

just as you **learned** it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is **a faithful servant** of Christ on our behalf,

- Epaphras was from Colossae and likely heard the gospel in Ephesus from Paul
- God uses people who know and love the gospel to spread the gospel
- “learned” *manthano\_* likely implies systematic instruction

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### The Fruit of Love

Colossians 1:8 (NASB)

and he also informed us of **your love in the Spirit**.

- Love characterizes believers and is revealed in the gospel
- The Holy Spirit fills us with God’s love

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### Implications and Applications

- Truth is both revealed through the gospel and an essential attribute of the gospel
- God can and does use individual Christians to spread the gospel and build His church
- The ideas “bearing fruit” and “growing” show the dynamic aspect of the gospel of grace

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### Gospel Truth

Ephesians 1:13 (NASB)

In Him, you also, after listening to **the message of truth, the gospel** of your salvation having also believed, **you were sealed** in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

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### God Uses Ordinary Christians

Acts 16:14, 40 (NASB)

A woman named **Lydia**, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and **the Lord opened her heart** to respond to the things spoken by Paul. . . . They went out of the prison and **entered the house of Lydia**, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

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### The Gospel Causes Growth and Bearing Fruit

John 15:8 (NASB)

"My Father is glorified by this, **that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.**"

Ephesians 5:9, 10 (NASB)

"(for the **fruit of the Light** consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord."

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