

Transforming Grace
Part 5
The Friendship of
Grace, Obedience & Good Works
Part II

John 15:1-17 Ephesians 2:8-10 Philippians 2:12-13

Fruitfulness as a Metaphor for Obedient, Good Works.

1. Fruitfulness is Relational. v. 5

Obedience Is Fruit.

Grace Is Root.

2. Fruitfulness is Inevitable. v. 16

Fruitfulness Is Foreordained.

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” **Ephesians 2:10**

“There are no true Christians without some measure of fruit. Fruitfulness is an infallible mark of true Christianity” - **DA Carson**

3. God’s Glory is the Purpose and End of Fruitfulness. v. 8

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.” **Philippians 2:12-13**

“I believe that my one aim in life and death should be to glorify God and enjoy him forever”
– **BB Warfield.**

John 15:1-17

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. 17 These things I command you, so that you will love one another.