



The Disciple of Christ: Growing & Fruitful 2 Peter 1:3-8 Part 2

- God has given us everything we need to have a spiritual life of **power**, godliness, and fruitfulness. vs. 3
- “*And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.*” **Colossians 2:10**
- As we learn to grow and walk in total faith in Jesus Christ, spiritual fruit is the natural outgrowth. Let’s examine the fruit of a growing disciple of Jesus Christ.

1. First fruit: *virtue*. vs. 5

2. Second fruit: *knowledge*. vs. 5

3. Third fruit: *temperance*. vs. 6

- Temperance carries the idea of **restraint**.
- Temperance is when your **fleshly** appetite is restrained and controlled.
- Temperance is a fruit of the **Spirit**. Galatians 5:23
- Trying harder will not bring temperance. Temperance is found in **trusting** Christ to live through you.

“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.” Galatians 5:16

4. Fourth fruit: *patience*. vs. 6

- “Patience” carries the idea of “enduring when circumstances are **difficult**.”

- *“So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure.”* **2 Thessalonians 1:4**
- *“Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.”* **James 5:10**
- *“...but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.”* **1 Peter 2:20b**
- What an example of patience Christ showed!
- *“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* **Hebrews 12:2**
- This same Jesus **lives** in us!
- We bear the fruit of His patience as we **surrender** to Christ in us.
- *“Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness.”* **Colossians 1:11**

Are you a growing and fruitful disciple of Jesus Christ?

- *“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”* **2 Peter 3:18**
- Your greatest need is simply to **grow** in the grace and knowledge of your relationship with Christ.
- Next week we will discover three more wonderful fruits that Christ’s life within us bears.