

## JOHN 15:1-16 part 6

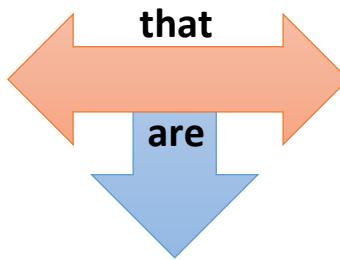
## "Cleansing"

John 15:2 AMPC: "Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit [that stops bearing] He cuts away (trims off, takes away); and He cleanse and repeatedly prunes every branch that continues to bear fruit, make it bear more and richer and more excellent fruit."

**Fruit bearing—Word of God—Believers, Cleansing of:** There are the fruitful branches. **NOTE** three points:

1. **FIRST POINT:** Fruitful branches are \_\_\_\_\_. All bad spots, useless buds, misdirected shoots, and discolored leaves are pruned off. Even fruitful believers have:

✓ \_\_\_\_\_,  
 ✓ \_\_\_\_\_,  
 ✓ \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 ✓ \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

☒ Believers have areas and things that must be cleaned away and cleared up, areas of...

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
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2. **SECOND POINT:** The purpose for pruning is \_\_\_\_\_: to prepare the branch to bear \_\_\_\_\_ fruit. The purpose is

- ↳ not to \_\_\_\_\_,
- ↳ not to \_\_\_\_\_, and
- ↳ not to \_\_\_\_\_ the branch.

☒ NOTE TWO THINGS ABOUT FRUIT-BEARING:

- a. The fruit a believer is to \_\_\_\_\_ (produce).

★ What does it mean to say a Christian is to bear fruit? It means

- to bear \_\_\_\_\_. "...I wanted to come so that I could help you grow spiritually [harvest some fruit among you] as I have helped the other..." (Romans 1:13 EXB) or "...I want to work among you and see spiritual fruit..." (NLT)

- to bear \_\_\_\_\_ . “What fruit did you have then from the things of which you are now ashamed? The result of those things is death. But now, having been freed from sin and having become slaves of God, you have fruit unto holiness, and the end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:21-23)
- to bear Christian \_\_\_\_\_ or the fruit of the \_\_\_\_\_. “But the fruit of the [Holy] Spirit [the work which His presence within accomplishes] is LOVE, JOY (gladness), PEACE, PATIENCE (an even temper, forbearance), KINDNESS, GOODNESS (benevolence), FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS (meekness, humility), SELF-CONTROL (self-restraint, continence). Against such things there is no law [that can bring a charge].” (Galatians 5:22-23 AMPC) Interesting what the Message Bible quotes: “But what happens when we live God’s way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an **ORCHARD**—things like affection for others (love), exuberance about life (joy), serenity (peace). We **DEVELOP** a willingness to stick with things (patience), a sense of compassion in the heart (kindness), and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people (goodness). We find ourselves **INVOLVED** in loyal commitments (faithfulness), not need to force our way in life (gentleness), able to marshal and direct our energies wisely (self-control).”

- b. The different stages of fruit-bearing. There are degrees of fruit-bearing, of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ. Matthew 13:8 EXB quotes: “Some other seed fell on good ground where it grew and produced a crop [grain]. Some plants made a 100 times more, some made 60 times more, and some made 30 times more.”
- ☛ All believers are not 100 percent fruit-bearers.
  - ☛ Some bear 60 percent,
  - ☛ others only 30 percent.

3. **THIRD POINT:** NOTE how the fruitful branches are PRUNED or PURGED and CLEANSED. There are three ways.

- I. Branches are CLEANSED by the \_\_\_\_\_ which Jesus has given to men/women, by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord Himself. The Word of God \_\_\_\_\_ men/women by purging away all the dross and contamination, pollution and dirty that clings to them. When a man/woman comes to the Word of God sincerely, the Word of God shows...
  - ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ he/she is doing or \_\_\_\_\_ he/she is not doing;
  - ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ he/she fails and \_\_\_\_\_ he/she fails; and
  - ✓ the sins of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- II. Branches are CLEANSED by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Word of God. When a man/woman looks into the Word of God, he/she \_\_\_\_\_ both himself/herself in his/her shortcomings and Christ in His perfection. The Word of God forces man/woman to measure himself/herself against Christ.
- III. Branches are CLEANSED by “\_\_\_\_\_” in Jesus. NOTE exactly what Jesus said: “Abide in Me, and I in you”. This can mean at least two things:
  - ⌚ It can mean a \_\_\_\_\_: “Abide in Me and I will abide in you”. The believer is thereby cleansed by His \_\_\_\_\_ or by being in Christ.
  - ⌚ It can mean a \_\_\_\_\_: “See to it that you abide in Me, and I in you”. The believer is cleaned by \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ faithful.