

# THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

## CHAPTER 15:9-17

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### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**"Who is a Real Christian?" – Part 2**

### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

**John 1:12**

**But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:**

### TOPICAL SUBJECT SEARCH KEYWORDS:

**Discipleship, Fellowship, Love, Obedience**

**INTRODUCTION**

***to the text***

***John 15:9-17***

## **Who is a Real Christian?**

**3.) *One who is bound to The Unity of Faith***

***vv. 6***

**"If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.**

**a.) *The Christian is United to Christ by Faith***

***v.6***

**"If anyone does not abide in Me,**

# **But the Christian Will Abide**

*will there be times, perhaps even years of spiritual failure?*

What do we learn from God's relationship to Israel or to a prodigal son?

**This "Being United to Jesus by Faith"  
IS THE MOST POWERFUL, GOD-ORDAINED LEASH**

**Psalm 138:7-8**

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; you will stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand will save me. The LORD will perfect that which concerns me; your mercy, O LORD, endures forever; do not forsake the works of Your hands.**

**Philippians 1:6**

**be confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;**

## **The Recovery of a Wounded Branch**

**Galatians 6:1-2**

**Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.**

**you who are spiritual**

***Who is a Real Christian?***

***One who is bound to The Unity of Faith***

***b.) The Christian is Grafted to Christ in Faith***

***v.6***

**he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.**

If the Remains of a Pruned Branch is thrown  
into the fire

*So also are dead or unfruitful look-a-likes*

This truth of being Grafted to Christ in faith  
Holds us firm unto the end

- There are those who abide = get pruned
- And are Those who need to be abiding again = get lifted up
- And are Those who are like branches but are not = they get burned

### ***Who is a Real Christian?***

**4.) One who now enjoys the *Security* of God vv. 7-8**

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

**a.) We Enjoy His Security - it makes us *confident* v.7**

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you

The Fact Taught Here Is;  
Abiding in Christ Promises Answered Prayer

## One who now enjoys the *Security* of God

### **b.) We Enjoy His Work in Our Lives**

**v.8**

By this My Father is glorified,  
that you bear much fruit;...so you will be My disciples.

John 15:2  
every branch that bears **fruit**... He prunes, that it may bear **more fruit**.

John 15:5  
"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears **much fruit**; for without Me you can do nothing.

Matthew 7:16  
"You will know them by their fruits. Do men

Love and Obedience

The two words seem forever apart in our minds. One word "Love" That speaks of joy and freedom and excitement. We love the word love.

The other word - Obedience.

Well it automatically puts a frown on our faces. The word itself seems to weigh about 100 pounds.

In Our Limited Human Understanding and Experience  
Love and Obedience are Mutually Exclusive Words

But To God  
And His Ultimate Understanding and Eternal Experience

The Fact Is - With God  
There is no such thing as obedience without love

True Obedience is Anchored to Love

Here in - is the Nature of Our God

Love is Expressed By Action  
And Obedience flows forth from Love

**Jesus says "I Command You"**

**1.) vv. 9-11**

Love is the Glue That Binds The Disciple to Christ as branches are Bound to the Vine

From this union - Two Christian attributes are Born

Obedience and Joy

Obedience is the Cause of their fruitfulness

And Joy is the result

An Unhappy Christian Is a joyless Christian because they are in disobedience in some area of their lives and so the fruit has ceased

## **Jesus Never Planned Failure For His Disciples**

love, obedience and joy  
are signs of abiding in Christ

**a.) v.9**

"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

We're talking about that great need for every believer to abide in the vine  
Because it is there that there is a the flow of life

**b.) v.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.

**c.) v.11**

"These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you,  
and that your joy may be full.

## "Who is a Real Christian?" – Part 2

### 2.) vv. 12-13

This is My commandment, that **you love one another** as I have loved you. 13 "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

#### a.) v.12

This is My commandment, that **you love one another** as I have loved you.

#### b.) v.13

"Greater love has no one than this,  
than to lay down one's life for his friends.

1 John 3:16 (NKJ)

16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

### 3.) vv. 14-15

"**You are My friends** if you do whatever I command you. 15 "No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing;

#### b.) v. 15

but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

### 4.) vv. 16-17

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you **that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain**, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. 17 "These things I command you, that you love one another.

that you should go and bear fruit,  
and that your fruit should remain,

Those who are real, heaven bound Christians are those who have seen a God-Change  
in their lives.

## THE PROOF OF BEING A DISCIPLE IS FRUIT-BEARING !

The Fruit Production of the Holy Spirit  
Continues on and on and on...

that whatever you ask the Father in My name  
He may give you

**c.) v.17**

"These things I command you, that you love one another.

**End of Study**