

Bear Fruit Through the Gospel: From Salvation Power to Sonship in Christ

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*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is **the power of God** to **salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” — Romans 1:16 (NKJV)*

Highlight key: = grace / *apart-from-works* truth · = the precious gift · **bold** = key terms

Know Whose You Are: Sons and Heirs

Before you can bear fruit, you must know **whose you are**. A prince who does not know his father lives among paupers — though every blessing belongs to him by birthright, he never walks in it.

- A king’s son carries royal identity even when raised elsewhere — the inheritance is already his.
- The enemy’s first move is to hide **whose child you are**, so you never claim what is yours.
- When you know you are God’s child, your mind is renewed — you stop living as a beggar.
- You are meant to walk through the palace gates, take your place, and receive what the Father stored up for you.

*“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the **manifestation of the sons of God**.” — Romans 8:19 (NKJV)*

Creation itself waits for sons and daughters of God to **step into their identity**. You and I are heirs — owners of the Father’s treasure. The question is not whether the

blessing exists, but whether we know we belong to Him.

The Gospel Is THE Power — Not One Power Among Many

Scripture does not say the gospel is *a* power. It says it is **the** power — the definite article. Like *the* sun or *the* moon, there is only one. Everything God does for you flows through this one channel.

Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is **the power of God** to **salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” — Romans 1:16 (NKJV)*

- **THE** power — not one option among many spiritual tools.
- The Greek word behind salvation is *sózó* — far wider than “escape hell.”
- First maturity: know **whose you are**. Second: know **what the gospel is**.
- Third maturity: grow from saved → life → full restoration in Christ.

Beyond Level-One Salvation: What Sózó Really Means

Many believers stop at level one — rescued from hell — and never discover what the gospel continues to do in daily life. The word *sózó* opens five dimensions of God’s saving work.

Salvation — sózó

- **To Save** — from eternal separation; heaven instead of hell.
- **To Deliver** — from bondage, confusion, and every trouble you walk through.
- **To Heal** — whatever sickness or negative report stands against you.
- **To Preserve** — keep you stable when circumstances swing up and down.
- **To Make Whole** — complete restoration in body, soul, and spirit.

Level	What many think	What sózó includes
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1☐ Saved	Heaven when I die	Rescue from eternal death
2☐ Delivered	Occasional help	Freedom from present bondage
3☐ Healed	Separate from gospel	Power to make whole now
4☐ Preserved	Good days and bad days	Steady path when life fluctuates
5☐ Made whole	Future hope only	Full restoration in Christ

Do not let experience rewrite Scripture. One day well, the next weak — that swing is exactly why *preservation* is in the gospel. God’s word says the righteous path grows brighter, not dimmer.

The Path Gets Brighter: Trees, Growth, and Eden’s Two Trees

Proverbs compares the righteous path to the dawn — each day brighter than the last. Your life is meant to **grow like a tree**: always advancing, never shrinking. Do not judge by circumstances; look at Christ and the truth He speaks.

- **Brighter path** — yesterday’s light was less; today’s is greater still.
- **Tree nature** — a tree never stops growing; your life in Christ should flourish the same way.
- **Look at Jesus**, not the practice around you — truth liberates when you fix your eyes on Him.
- **Eden’s two trees** — good and evil knowledge brings death; the tree of life is Christ Himself.

Proverbs 4:18 (NKJV)

*“But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever **brighter unto the perfect day.**” — Proverbs 4:18 (NKJV)*

Psalms 1:3 (NKJV)

*“He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its **fruit in its season**, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.”*

— Psalm 1:3 (NKJV)

Eating is believing. You are not in Eden's garden now — you are *in Christ*, rooted in Him. Feed on Jesus, not on the knowledge of good and evil. Seek Christ and your life will bear fruit.

When you pursue good-and-evil religion, evil increases — not goodness. When you pursue **Jesus alone**, fruit grows naturally because you are connected to the Vine.

Three Levels: Saved, Life, and Full Restoration

The gospel carries you through three stages of maturity. You can grow in each — saved is not the ceiling. Romans 7-8 maps the journey from bondage under law to sonship in the Spirit.

1. **Level 1 — Saved:** rescued from hell; union with God begins.
2. **Level 2 — Life:** reigning in life; blessings, healing, and fruit appear.
3. **Level 3 — Full restoration:** sons manifested; all things freely given in Christ.

Romans 8:19 (NKJV)

*“For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the **manifestation of the sons of God.**”* — Romans 8:19 (NKJV)

God wants you qualified for every blessing — not merely forgiven, but **fruitful**. He corrects your paths, makes impossible things possible, and surrounds you with protection. That is the Father's heart for His children.

Focus on Jesus: Married to Christ, Not the Law

Romans 7 uses marriage law as a picture. While the first husband lives, the wife is bound. When he dies, she is free to belong to another. You were born “married” to the law — but Christ died so you could be joined to **Him** and bear fruit for God.

Romans 7:2 (NKJV)

“For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives.” — Romans 7:2 (NKJV)

Romans 7:3 (NKJV)

*“So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an **adulteress**.” — Romans 7:3 (NKJV)*

Romans 7:4 (NKJV)

*“Therefore, my brethren, you also have become **dead to the law** through the body of Christ, that you may be **married to another**—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should **bear fruit to God**.” — Romans 7:4 (NKJV)*

Romans 7:5 (NKJV)

*“For when we were in the **flesh**, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to **death**.” — Romans 7:5 (NKJV)*

Romans 7:6 (NKJV)

*“But now we have been **delivered from the law**, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.” — Romans 7:6 (NKJV)*

- Under law, sinful passions **increase** — fruit goes to death, not to God.
- Christ took your burdens, sickness, and sorrows — you can live in **freedom**, not bondage.
- Paul preached one thing only — **Christ crucified** — and won souls while others walked past needy people.
- **Bear fruit for God** flows from union with Christ, not from law-keeping.

Romans 7:4

*“So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might **bear fruit for God**.” — Romans 7:4*

Do Not Be Lukewarm: New Wine Needs New Wineskins

Mixing gospel grace with law-keeping produces lukewarm faith — saved on one side, trying to earn blessing by obedience on the other. Scripture warns: that mixture will be rejected.

Romans 3:10 (NKJV)

“As it is written: ‘There is none righteous, no, not one.’” — Romans 3:10 (NKJV)

Isaiah 64:6 (NKJV)

*“But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our **righteousnesses** are like filthy rags.” — Isaiah 64:6 (NKJV)*

When you believe blessing follows your goodness, you forget — under law, **none** is righteous and your best works are filthy rags. Look to Christ alone; do not measure God’s favour by your performance score.

Revelation 3:16

*“So then because thou art **lukewarm**, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.” — Revelation 3:16*

Matthew 9:16

*“No man putteth a piece of **new cloth** unto an **old garment**.” — Matthew 9:16*

Matthew 9:17

*“Neither do men put **new wine** into **old bottles**.” — Matthew 9:17*

- **Lukewarm** — trusting Christ for heaven but your obedience for daily blessing.
- **New wine** — the full gospel power for your whole life, not just the afterlife.
- **Old garment** — law mindset that splits blessing from the cross.
- Mix both and you **lose the blessing** — the patch tears and the wineskin bursts.

Look to God alone for blessing — not your performance, not your track record. When you believe blessing comes because you are good, you are back under law. Christ becomes of no effect.

Eat Solid Food: From Milk to Sonship

Many believers stay on spiritual milk — saved, attending church, yet never receiving the full inheritance. Solid food teaches you who you are in Christ: a **son**, not a slave under bondage.

Romans 8:15

*“For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of **sonship**.” — Romans 8:15*

Hebrews 5:13

*“For every one that useth **milk** is unskilful in the **word of righteousness**.” — Hebrews 5:13*

Hebrews 5:14

*“But **strong meat** belongeth to them that are of **full age**.” — Hebrews 5:14*

Galatians 4:7

*“Wherefore thou art **no more a servant**, but **a son**.” — Galatians 4:7*

Galatians 3:25

*“But after that faith is come, we are **no longer under a schoolmaster**.” — Galatians 3:25*

- **Milk** — basic salvation; you know you are forgiven.
- **Solid food** — righteousness by faith; sonship; reigning in life.
- **Schoolmaster** — the law tutored us until Christ came; we are no longer under it.

- You cannot remain a child forever — move from servant mindset to **heir** mindset.
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It Is Free: All Things Freely Given in Christ

God did not spare His own Son — how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? The gospel is not a partial payment plan. Everything you need was purchased at the cross.

Romans 8:32

*“He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also **freely give us all things**?” — Romans 8:32*

Romans 5:17 (NKJV)

*“For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness** shall **reign in life** by one, Jesus Christ.” — Romans 5:17 (NKJV)*

- **Freely given** — health, peace, provision, and favour are included, not extras.
- **Gift of righteousness** — you reign in life by receiving, not achieving.
- Jesus gave up everything — comparing His sacrifice to our blessing shows how small our request is.
- Stop negotiating with God — receive what the cross already purchased.

He bore every sorrow so you need not carry it. He used the prophetic word as a sacrifice — therefore walk in liberty, always believing you have an inheritance in Christ.

Law vs Faith: Why Mixing Blocks Fruit and Blessing

Galatians confronts the church: did you receive the Spirit by works of law or by hearing with faith? Mixing law with grace blocks fruit, healing, and every blessing God intends.

Galatians 3:2-3

*“This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the **law**, or by the hearing of **faith**? Are you so foolish? Having **begun in the Spirit**, are you now being made perfect by the **flesh**?” — Galatians 3:2-3*

Galatians 3:5-6

*“Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the **law**, or by the hearing of **faith**?—just as Abraham ‘believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.’” — Galatians 3:5-6*

Romans 7:5

*“For when **we were in the flesh**, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.” — Romans 7:5*

Law path	Faith path
Blessing tied to your obedience	Blessing tied to Christ’s finished work
Fear, worry, and guilt increase	Peace and sonship increase
Fruit unto death	Fruit unto God
Christ of no effect	Full gospel power in daily life

- **Law has no faith** — whatever is not of faith is sin; fear and worry become bondage.
- Bound to law, you cannot inherit blessing — you produce death, not fruit.
- **Married to Christ** — dead to law, alive to produce fruit for God.
- **The gospel alone** is the power for your whole life — not just salvation at the start.

The Takeaway

1. **Know whose you are** — sons and heirs, not paupers unaware of their birthright.

2. **The gospel is THE power** — szóó saves, delivers, heals, preserves, and makes whole.
3. **Your path grows brighter** — feed on Christ, not the tree of good-and-evil religion.
4. **Married to Christ, dead to law** — bear fruit for God, not fruit unto death.
5. **Refuse lukewarm mixture** — new wine cannot live in old wineskins.
6. **Eat solid food** — move from milk to sonship; you are no longer a servant but a son.
7. **It is all free in Christ** — righteousness is a gift; all things come with Jesus.
8. **Law blocks blessing; faith receives it** — keep the gospel as the power for your entire life.

Scripture-based study on bearing fruit through the gospel and walking in sonship in Christ. If it strengthened you, share it with someone who needs this truth today.
