

## **APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING** **(John 15)**

The statements that Yahshua makes in the vine and branches relationship are

- (1) I am the vine (2) you are the branches (3) I am the life giver (4) apart from Me you can do nothing.

In the analogy that Yahshua made concerning the vine, we see a beautiful process of sanctification through the cleansing and through the cutting and pruning. While Yahshua is the vine, God is the vinedresser. God takes the position of cutting off those who don't bear fruit, cleansing and pruning those who bear fruit so they would bear more, better, richer and more excellent fruit. The word spoken by Yahshua to the disciples cleansed and pruned them, because the words that Yahshua spoke and speaks is alive and powerful; it is sharper than any two edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and the spirit and of joints and marrow, exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). Yahshua is the incarnate Word of God bringing all that represents to fulfill God's purpose in one's life.

For those who don't bear fruit, the judgment is their cutting off from the vine; they are taken off from the life support and they die eternally. In the parable of the seed, Yahshua explained each one with clarity. So we see that only the seed that found a good soil, produced fruit. He said, "These are [the people] who, hearing the Word, hold it fast in a just and worthy heart, and steadily bring forth fruit with patience" (Luke 8:15). That is, they persisted in the faith amidst temptations and trials, they hold onto the Word they heard to sanctify them, to guide them and in obedience to the Word they bore fruit unto righteousness. And that's the only seed that shows the true, genuine acceptance of Christ through growth and the bearing of the fruit.

Why the bearing of fruit is a must for a believer in Yahshua? Because through it the believer shows to be in Christ, under His sanctification and control and the fruit that they produce proves the genuineness of his faith. "Without Me you can do nothing". In the cleansing and pruning of the believer, he achieves the level of being more like Yahshua, as he continues to hold in view the glory of God, through the transformation that is taking place in his heart and mind, with increasing brightness from one degree of glory to another (II Corinthians 3: 18). That happens when he submits to the cleansing and pruning- sanctification of the Holy God through His spirit to mold him to be in the likeness of His Son – Yahshua. My friend, embrace your valley, your desert as a gift from God and never ask Him to take them away from you, for they will be the place where God will be working in you to bring the "increasing splendor from one degree of glory to another" in the process and beauty of your sanctification. The righteousness of God imparted to us compels us to bear fruit showing that we are alive in Christ, abiding in Him. He said "if you live in Me and My Words remain in your hearts, ask whatever you will and it shall be done". In our intimacy with Christ, we come to know Him and our relationship with Him grows beyond that of salvation, that is, of Him being only a Savior, to being our King and friend. He said to His disciples, I do not call you servants, but I have called you My friends,

because I have told you everything I heard from My Father (v. 15). To have a friend, is to have a heavenly gift. When Yahshua expressed Himself in term of friendship, He was showing how special a friend's relationship is in the closeness and trust, and in the bond of love between them. Yahshua said in John 13:21, "The person who has My commands and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and whoever loves Me will be loved by My Father and I will love him and will show Myself to him". To be His friend, is to be in His presence feasting in His Word as He reveals Himself, His truth and the hidden things, to us that is, the things that can only be spiritually discerned.

The tears shed on the desert and valley communicate to Him our need to submit and surrender our will to His, to have Him transfigure us into His image in ever increasing splendor, passing from one degree of glory to another, closer and closer to what He is. And this is a gift from God to all who were called to be molded in the image of Christ Yahshua!

Lord, may I see you in the valley; and hear your voice in the desert in a relationship that will never fade away until You take me home where You are. AMEN!

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

I am Jacinta, for Light from the Word Ministry