*Thursday, April 18, 2013*

**John**

John 15:1-2 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. (KJV)

Salvation is a continual process; you begin a new life in the realm of the Spirit, and now you are required to continue walking in the Spirit to the end. Our Lord purges or prunes His branches and cuts off all the dead things that are still hanging on to it. What’s the saying, “no pain no gain”.

Hosea 10:1-2 Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images. 2 Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images. (KJV)

Sometimes being a teacher in the Word is like playing good cop, bad cop depending on who you are dealing with. The Lord is very consistent throughout the Word to point out the positive effects salvation can have on a person as well as the negative effects on a person’s salvation if they decide to go back to the ways of the flesh.

Mark 11:11-13 And Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple: and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve. 12 And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry: 13 And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet. (KJV)

How many of the Lord’s people are going into temples today seeking some truth, only to leave empty? The description we see above aptly describes many today who appear outwardly to look godly, but inwardly there is no fruit.

Mark 11:14-16 And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it. 15 And they come to Jerusalem: and Jesus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves; 16 And would not suffer that any man should carry any vessel through the temple. (KJV)

Two thousand or so years ago our Lord cast out all that nonsense that was taking place in what was supposed to be His temple. Today many have set up their tables again and are just like the empty fig tree not bearing any fruit. Verse 16 concludes with the fact that the Lord would not allow anymore of this nonsense into His temple, so why does mankind think they can get away with it today? Be sure, as you go about your day, not to allow this nonsense in either.

God bless dearly loved, and have a very prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.