

## “Perfecting Holiness In The Fear Of God” – The Results

2 Corinthians 7:1–11  
Part 2

1

## Fruits Of Repentance

- ▶ “For behold, this selfsame thing, that ye were made sorry after a godly sort, what earnest care it wrought in you, yea what clearing of yourselves, yea what indignation, yea what fear, yea what longing, yea what zeal, yea what avenging!”

*In everything ye approved yourselves to be pure in the matter.” 2 Corinthians 7:11*

2

## Fruits Of Repentance

### “What Earnest care.”

*spoudee*, “with haste, earnestness, diligence”  
(Thayer)

“conveys the thought of anxiety, of watchful interest and earnestness.” (W.E. Vine)

- ▶ Truly penitent Christians will immediately take whatever action that the situation demands in the light of God’s word. (cf. Acts 8:20)

3

## Fruits Of Repentance

### “Yea what clearing of yourselves.”

*apologia* “to give an answer or speech in defense of oneself” (The Complete Word Study Dictionary).

The church in Corinth had been tolerant of sin among them. (1 Corinthians 5; cf. 2 Corinthians 7:14)

- ▶ Truly penitent Christians who are ready and anxious to clear themselves and to cause men to glorify their father who is in heaven (Matthew 5:16).

4

## Fruits Of Repentance

### “Yea what indignation.”

*aganakteesis*, “To be oppressed in mind, grieved, resentful.” (The Complete Word Study Dictionary)

This is more than intense sorrow. It carries to the next level of hatred for sin. cf. Genesis 39:9  
Psalms 119:128, “Therefore I esteem all (thy) precepts concerning all (things) to be right; (and) I hate every false way.”

- ▶ Penitent Christians are indignant at that which had enslaved them in the past and now is trying to recapture them or others and drag them away from the Lord.

5

## Fruits Of Repentance

### “Yea what fear.”

*phóbos*, “fear, dread, terror; reverence, respect.” (Thayer)

- ▶ Perhaps fear of further contamination. cf. 1 Corinthians 5:6
- ▶ Perhaps the fear of further displeasing God or even the apostle Paul. cf. 1 Corinthians 4:18–21
- ▶ Penitent Christians have a holy fear, or reverence, for God and rebuke of God’s people are legitimate deterrents to sin. We must learn that sin has consequences.

6

## Fruits Of Repentance

### **"Yea what longing."**

*epipothesis*, "to desire earnestly, strong affection (2 Corinthians 7:7,11)" (*The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*)

- ▶ Titus comforted Paul with his good report concerning the Corinthians. 2 Corinthians 7:7
- ▶ Desired companionship. Romans 15:23; 2 Corinthians 5:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:6; 2 Timothy 1:4
- ▶ Penitent Christians long to maintain fellowship with God and other Christians.

7

7

## Fruits Of Repentance

### **"Yea what zeal."**

*zelos*, "as the capacity or state of passionate commitment." (*Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*)

- ▶ Zeal without knowledge can do harm. Romans 10:1-3
- ▶ Penitent Christians are passionate about correction.

8

8

## Fruits Of Repentance

### **"Yea what avenging."**

*ekdikēsis*, "to execute justice. Execution of right, justice." (*The Complete Word Study Dictionary*)

- ▶ That which was once tolerated is no longer permitted.
- ▶ Translations: "justice" (*KJV* - "revenge," *NASB* - "avenging of wrong"). The NIV puts it, "what readiness to see justice done"
- ▶ Penitent Christians will not tolerate sin.

9

9

## Fruits Of Repentance

### **"For behold ... In everything ye approved yourselves to be pure in the matter."**

*hagnós*, "Freedom from defilements or impurities. Akin to *hāgios*, Holy." (*The Complete Word Study Dictionary*)

Note 2 Corinthians 7:1, "Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, **perfecting holiness** in the fear of God."

10

10