

**UNION FOURSQUARE GOSPEL CHURCH, 404 NORTH BROAD SREET,  
ELIZABETH NJ**

**Theme:** Created in his image.

**Theme-Text:** Genesis 1:26 – 31, Ephesians 2: 10 – 11.

**Topic:** God's mandate to be fruitful, multiply, replenish and subdue the Earth.

**Text:** Genesis 1:22,28; Genesis 9:7.

## **INTRODUCTION**

At the time of creation, God said things that were very dear to heart. One of those things was for mankind to be fruitful, multiply, replenish and subdue the earth. Genesis 1:28, Genesis 9:7. If there is no fruitfulness and multiplication, there can be no replenishing the earth. Which areas are we expected to bear fruit, what happens when we bear fruit and what happens when we do not?

We are going to look at fruitfulness in two ways, In the spiritual and in the physical.

### **1. God wants us to be fruitful.**

He created us to be fruitful and multiply. Genesis 1: 28. He chose us to be fruitful and multiply. John 15: 16.

It can be seen in the following verses:

- Genesis 1: 22 – to the animals.
- Genesis 1: 28 – to Adam and Eve
- Genesis 8: 17 – to the animals' post-flood
- Genesis 9:1 – to Noah and his sons
- Genesis 9:7 – to Noah and his sons
- Genesis 17: 20 – to Abraham as a promise about his son Ishmael
- Genesis 28: 3 – A blessing from Isaac to Jacob
- Genesis 35:11 – to Jacob
- Genesis 48: 4 – from God to Jacob; Jacob recounting the event.

### **2. God is glorified when we are fruitful in good things.**

Colossians 1:10, Philippians 1:11

A truly righteous person will display certain actions and attitudes that confirm the nature of the heart: honesty, kindness, meekness, goodness, love, etc. E.g. Paul the apostle.

**3. True disciples will bear fruits for God's glory. Matthew 5: 16**

**4. A tree is known by its fruit.**

When we are fruitful, bearing good fruit, we are “pruned” so we can produce better fruit. John 15:1-2, 5, 16; Matthew 7:16-20; Psalm 1: 1- 6.

The five types of fruit: fruit of the body (Psalm 127:3, Psalm 128: 3, Deut. 28:4), fruit of the ground and land (Deut. 28:8, Levi. 5: 21, Levi. 25: 18 - 21), fruit of the cattle (Deut. 28:11), fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5: 22 – 23), and fruit of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21).

**5. God is happy when we bear fruit and unhappy when we don't.**

What kind of fruit are we supposed to produce or bear?

- a. Fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 5:8-10, Romans 12:2.
- b. Fruit in keeping with repentance. Matthew 3:8, Hebrew 13:15.
- c. What kind of fruit should we not be producing or bearing?  
Galatians 5:19-21. These are opposed to kingdom life and principles and at the end separate from God. Romans 8:35.
- d. Being fruitful and Multiplying in the Lord Matthew 13:23, ESV
- e. Bearing Fruit of the good news of God's grace. Colossians 1:3-6
- f. Trusting God to sanctify, preserve and strengthen us as we bear fruit by his grace and for his glory. 1 Thessalonians 5: 23, ESV Ephesians 3:16 – 19.

## **CONCLUSION**

We are people blessed by God from creation and mandated to go and be blessing to others. Being fruitful for God is mandatory, and it is not negotiable. As spiritual people, we must bear the positive fruits mentioned in this study. If we are not bearing fruits that glorify God and edify others, then something is wrong.