

- Intro: We note the Parable of the Sower. Matt. 13:19-23. The Soil is the Heart. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Prov. 4:23. The Seed is the Word of God. "The seed is the Word of God." Lk. 8:11. The Seed planted in the Heart produces the Taproot of Faith. That Faith grows and, as a result, one believes the Word. He then repents, confesses, and is baptized. Rom. 6:4. New life begins. As Faith in Christ, the Taproot, grows, one becomes rooted. "Rooted and builded up in him, and established in your faith, even as ye were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." Col. 2:7. We must grow in faith. 2 Pet. 3:18. The Taproot of Faith will send out roots as it continues to grow. 2 Pet. 1:5-9. Warning: we must be careful that no evil root of bitterness comes out. Heb. 12:15. As the Taproot of Faith grows and new roots shoot out, we can see the results of these roots in the branches of the plant.
 - I. ROOT OF VIRTUE:

Is shown in the Branch of Courage. Heb. 13:6. (Virtue means moral goodness; courage or fortitude; manliness.) This courage enables one to continue on in the work of the Lord. 1 Cor. 15:58.

II. ROOT OF KNOWLEDGE:

Is shown in the Branch of Preaching and Teaching. 2 Tim. 4:1-2. A knowledge of God's Word will cause us to teach others. This teaching and preaching will build up the body of Christ and make it strong. Eph. 4:12.

III. ROOT OF TEMPERANCE:

Is shown in the Branch of Self-Control. Let us see if we are in the faith. 2 Cor. 13:5. Are we controlling bad habits? Are we meek enough to quit them.

IV. ROOT OF PATIENCE:

Is shown in the Branch of Longsuffering. Eph. 4:2. Remaining faithful, steadfast regardless (like Job).

V. ROOT OF GODLINESS:

Is shown in the Branch of Reverence and Piety. To show respect for. Heb. 12:28.

VI. ROOT OF BROTHERLY KINDNESS:

Is shown in the Branch of Good Deed and Forgiveness. Eph. 4:32; Matt. 6:12. We grow in Brotherly Kindness; it can be seen.

VII. ROOT OF LOVE:

Is shown in the Branch of Love. Eph. 3:17; Eph. 3:17; 1 Cor. 13:1-8. Note 1 Pet. 2:22.

CONCL: Have you received the Word of God that it may grow up into a tree of Eternal Life for you.