

Philippians 1:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Analysis

Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God (πεπληρωμένοι καρπὸν δικαιοσύνης τὸν διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, peplērōmenoi karpon dikaiosynēs ton dia Iēsou Christou)—Peplērōmenoi (perfect passive participle, "having been filled") indicates completed action with ongoing results: believers are filled and remain filled. Karpon ("fruit," singular) suggests unified harvest of righteousness, not scattered virtues.

Righteousness (δικαιοσύνη, dikaiosynē) here is practical sanctification—righteous living, not imputed righteousness (though that's foundational). Crucially, these fruits are **by Jesus Christ** (διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, dia Iēsou Christou)—through His agency, not self-generated morality. The ultimate purpose: **unto the glory and praise of God** (εἰς δόξαν καὶ ἔπαινον θεοῦ, eis doxan kai epainon theou). Righteous fruit glorifies God, not the fruit-bearer. This verse completes Paul's prayer (vv. 9-11): love → discernment → excellence → righteousness → God's glory.

Historical Context

The fruit metaphor echoes Jesus's vine-branches teaching (John 15:1-8) and OT covenant blessings (Ps 1:3; Jer 17:7-8). Paul's emphasis on righteousness 'by Jesus Christ' countered both Jewish works-righteousness and Gentile self-improvement ethics. Glory and praise directed to God alone reflects Jewish monotheism against Greco-Roman self-glorification and patron-client reciprocity.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What 'fruits of righteousness' in your life can you honestly attribute to Christ's work rather than self-effort?
2. How do you ensure that visible righteousness directs glory to God, not to yourself?
3. What is the connection between being filled with Christ-produced fruit and giving God praise?

Interlinear Text

πεπληρωμένοι	καρπῶν	δικαιοσύνης	τῶν	διὰ	Ἰησοῦ
Being filled	with the fruits	of righteousness	which	are by	Jesus
G4137	G2590	G1343	G3588	G1223	G2424
Χριστοῦ	εἰς	δόξαν	καὶ	ἔπαινον	θεοῦ
Christ	unto	the glory	and	praise	of God
G5547	G1519	G1391	G2532	G1868	G2316

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 12:11 (Righteousness): Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

John 15:8 (Glory): Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Colossians 1:10 (References God): That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Philippians 4:17 (Parallel theme): Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

Isaiah 61:11 (Righteousness): For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Colossians 1:6 (References God): Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:

Ephesians 1:14 (Glory): Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 5:9 (Righteousness): (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

Romans 6:22 (References God): But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

1 Corinthians 10:31 (Glory): Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.