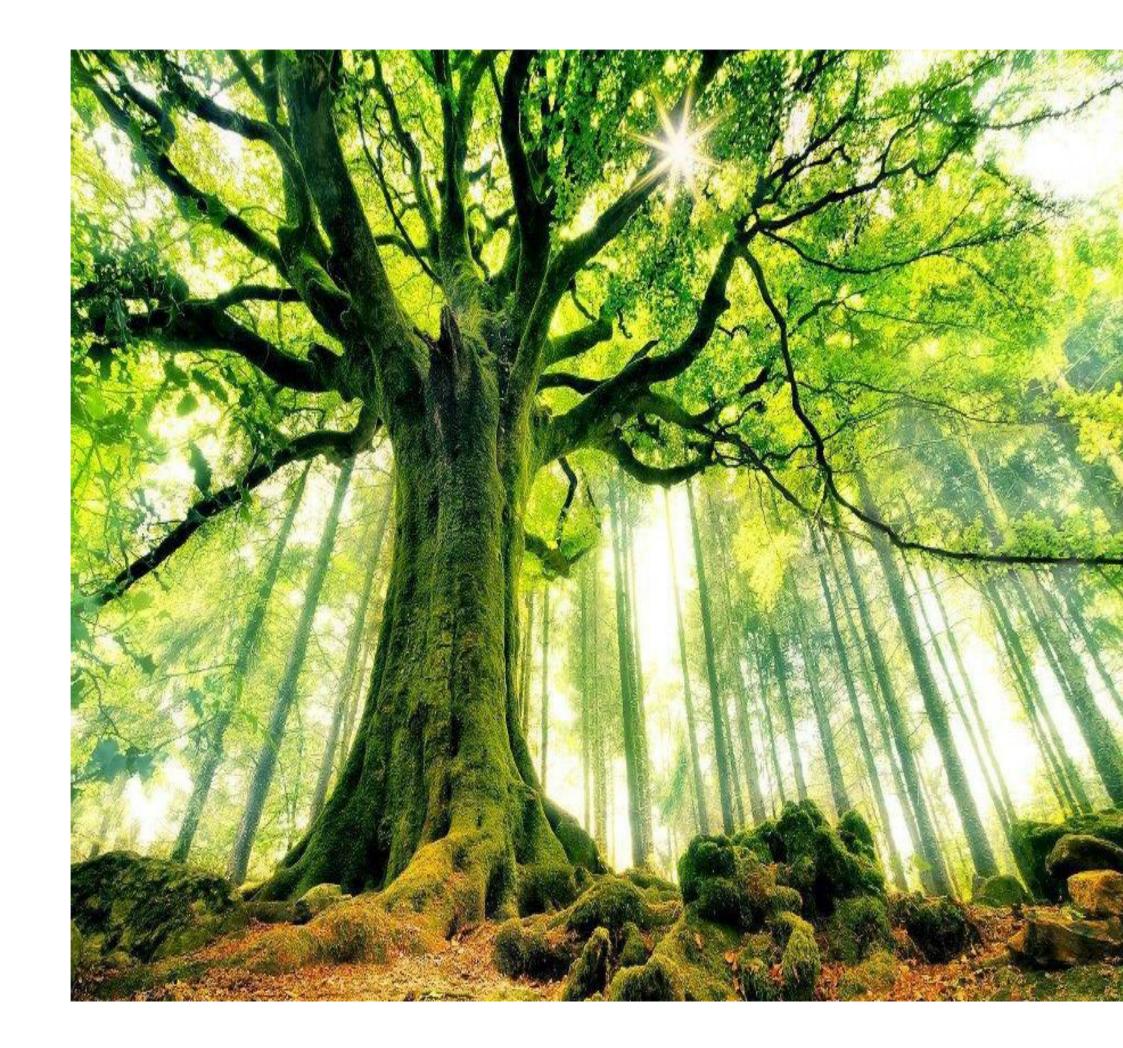
Tees 6

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Psa. 1:3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

- In order to grow a tree, you must first have patience. No matter how good the ground is or how plentiful the elements, a tree needs time to develop. James 1:4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.
- Trees take a long time to mature. The processes that trees endure are lengthy because a tree must be the proper stature before it can bear fruit. Eccl. 3:1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
 - Because branches and fruit weigh trees down, the base must be solid in order to support the fruit yielded. Being rightly aligned with God will cause us to sprout branches that can support the weight of the fruit we bear. Prov. 12:12 The wicked desireth the net of evil men: but the root of the righteous yieldeth fruit.



- Taking our time and maturing before we attempt to do certain things is imperative to our spiritual growth. The Bible gives us orderly instructions by exhorting us to seek the kingdom first, so that things can be added afterwards. *Matt. 6:33 But seek ye* first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.
- God has prepared certain stages of development for us to endure, so that we may bear fruit. We should never try to acquire fruit before we are ready. 1Pet. 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:
- Planting comes first, then comes growth and lastly, fruit comes in due season. Gal. 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, *if we faint not.*



- Only a well established tree can produce fruit. This is a tree that has gone through its growth phases and is full of sustenance. Col. 2:6-7 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.
- God also prunes fruit-bearing trees, so that we can grow upward and not laterally. When a tree is pruned, it shapes the tree so that the branches will continue to be aligned with its center. John 15:2 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.
- Trees are pruned to encourage optimal growth. When the diseased and dead limbs are cut away, the tree is able to bear more fruit. This is a continual process and must be done when needed. 2Tim. 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.







Jesus walked up to a tree and wanted something to eat but it had no fruit on it. The Gospel of Mark's account of this story states that it was not the correct season for figs. But because Jesus saw it in leaf (bearing leaves is an indicator that it has fruit or the time for fruit was near), he was disappointed when we did not find figs.

This parable illustrates that we should be content with the process of God preparing us and we should not appear to have fruit before His timing. Everyone has to endure God's progression of making us fruitbearing trees. We must not go before the Lord and get ahead of His plan for us. We must trust the One that created us and the ONLY one that knows the future. When we trust in Him and endure His course for us, we will bear fruit, more fruit, and much fruit in due season.





James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

James 5:8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.