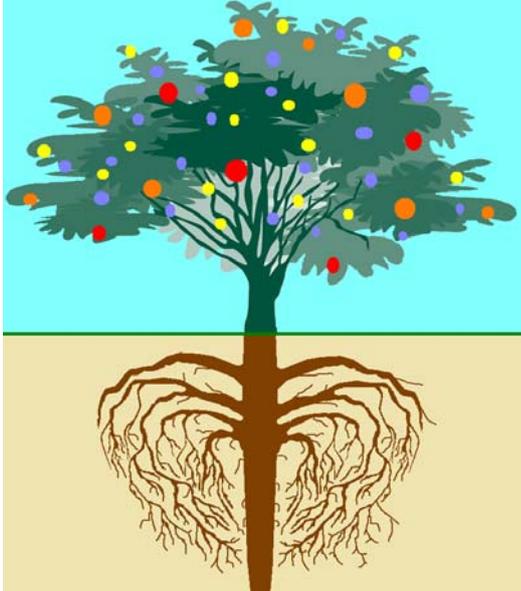


GROWING LIKE A TREE

Trees are about half roots. Consider your study of GOD's Word to be *working on your roots*. Fellowship with Godly brethren is like *working on your branches*. Good works are the fruits, and healthy heartwood vital. If you try to be all fruits early in your walk with GOD, then your tree will fall over in the first strong gust of wind. If you only study HIS Word and end up primarily roots you'll probably be of less use to GOD. Seek a healthy balance between your roots and branches and the fruits will come naturally of themselves. If you find you've stunted your growth in some way, get back into healthy balance, and bear good fruit with less effort.



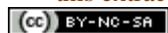
**“Blessed is the man who trusts in YHVH
whose confidence is in HIM.
he will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
it does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green;
it has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.”¹**

Perfection starts with tending your roots. You know the answer to “two plus two?” without conscious thought and likewise the answer to “three times five?” You no longer question how you know the answers are right, as they became part of *previously solved questions* and the right answers are there every time. It is much the same with knowing the fullness of GOD's commandments for ourselves. Although the subjects are more difficult, the process is the same. We dig deep to learn the correct foundations for right and wrong choices – the commandments. If we listen to what this man and that man say about what GOD wants, we will hear many opinions and not reach a conclusion. If we accept only one group of men, we may also be accepting errors long handed down. When we dig deep and nourish our roots with what GOD actually said, then we can grow with the deep foundation MESSIAH spoke of.

Everyone who comes to ME, and hears MY Words, and acts upon them, I will show you who he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation upon the rock; and when a flood rose, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ²

To act upon the words of MESSIAH, dig deep and grow up strong. It does take time, but eventually the answers are the right answers every time. It then gets easier as time passes. But if we allow our foundation to rest upon doctrines of men we may find they led us away from the deep foundation. You are building your foundation for eternity with GOD - be zealous in this first season of your journey. The passage of time makes simple many things that we might desire to get over and done with quickly. It takes about three years for all cells in the human body to replace themselves, some portions regenerating more often than others. Thinking patterns change slowly. Don't hurt yourself by rushing a natural process, and don't be overly slack. Balance yourself like a good tree does every day for good health.

*** this extract is part of the book ...Delta... updated slightly for issue in 2015 with ... Three Briefs ...



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¹ see Jeremiah 17:7-8

² see Luke 6:47-48