

GOSPEL PEARLS

What matters are the fruits

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Jesus said to his disciples: 'Beware of false prophets who come to you disguised as sheep but underneath are ravenous wolves. You will be able to tell them by their fruits. Can people pick grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, a sound tree produces good fruit but a rotten tree bad fruit. A sound tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor a rotten tree bear good fruit. Any tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown on the fire. I repeat, you will be able to tell them by their fruits.' (Matthew 7,15-20)

Jesus affirms that it is from the fruits that the quality of a tree is recognised. The example of the fruits of the tree should be applied to our life. In fact, it is precisely how much our life produces that the validity of our faith is proved. What counts therefore are the fruits and not the sterile even, if ardent, intentions. Appearances can deceive, but God who does not look at appearances will judge us by our fruits. What fruit do you have today to offer the Lord as proof of your spiritual worth?