GRAIN OF WHEAT

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"And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come, that the Son of Man should be glorified. Truly, truly, I say unto you, except a Grain of Wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it brings forth much fruit. He who loves his life shall lose it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." (John 12:23-25)

Word Studies

Grain: from the Greek word **kokkos** which means: a grain or kernel of seed. **Wheat:** from the Greek word **sitos** which means: a generic term for any edible grain – usually wheat, but sometimes barley.

Jesus is the Grain of Wheat!

Falls: from the Greek word **peson** (from **pipto**) which means: properly, to fall, fell, (either from or upon); (literally or figuratively); of descent from a higher place to a lower.

Jesus first descended from a higher place: the Most Holy Place in Heaven, to a lower place: an animal stall on earth; and a 33.5 year <u>human</u> life on earth! As it says:

Jesus "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:6-8)

Ground: from the Greek word *gen* (from *ge*) which means: the earth, soil, land, ground.

In the context of the parable, the 'ground' is the place, or location where the grain of wheat dies; (But not the grave). For Jesus, the place of dieing was on the Cross! As it says:

"He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

Dies: from the Greek word **apothane** (From **apo** away-from, and **thesko** to die) which means: to die off (literally or figuratively) - to become dead, death, die, be dying, be slain.

"But God demonstrated his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, **Christ died for us**." (Romans 5: 8)

Abides: from the Greek word *meno* which means: to stay, stays, abides, remains, waits. **Alone:** from the Greek word *monos*: to be alone, single, solitary, desolate.

In context, 'abiding alone' means "not dieing, or not dieing to self-will" resulting in unfruitfulness. For Jesus, the context of abiding alone is defined by the term "except" or "unless" (Literally "if not").

" Except a Grain of Wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone,"

If Jesus had 'stayed' in heaven and was not "made in the likeness of men;" nor "found in fashion as a man;" nor "humbled Himself, <u>and became obedient unto death, even</u> the death of the cross;" there would be no possibility of "Fruit"!!

GRAIN OF WHEAT

Pg 2

Fruit: from the Greek word *karpon* (from *karpós*) which means: a fruit, generally as from a plant; also: deeds, actions, results, profit, gain.

The context of the parable is that of a wheat seed falling, or bring sown, onto the ground; and then dieing to its "seed" nature, and then germinating and <u>rising</u> up as a "sprout" that grows into into a mature plant that brings forth much fruit – <u>more grain of the same nature!</u>!

The Fruit is all those people who are born again as new creatures in and through Christ Jesus! Consider these passages:

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit (karpós), He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:1-20)

"I am the resurrection, and the life; he who believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." (John 11:21-27)

Now if Christ is preached that He rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not risen. And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is vain, and your faith is also vain. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ, whom He raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not raised. And if Christ is not raised, your faith is vain; you are yet in your sins. Then they also who have fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now Christ has risen from the dead, and has become the Frstfruits of those who slept. For since by a man came death, by a Man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the Firstfruits; afterward those who are Christ's at His coming." (1Chorinthians 15:12-23)

"For none of us lives to himself, and no man dies to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that He might be Lord both of the dead and living." (those in Christ at His coming – His fruit – even us!) (Romans 14: 7-9)

JESUS IS...

The Grain of Wheat...

who came down from heaven...
and who humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death,
even the death of the cross.

So that He might bring forth much fruit... of whom we are!!

Lord Jesus we are the Fruit of your Life, and Your death, and of Your resurrection, and of Your Spirit who dwells in us!

Thank You Jesus!! Bless You Jesus!! Always and forever!