## To Bring Forth Fruit Ray Stedman

I. Introduction. Text: Genesis 1:9-13.

II. Science comes in general agreement with what we read in Genesis about creation.

A. A modern observer would not easily be able to see that the oceans were one large body.

B. A modern observer would not easily know that the continents had been submersed in the oceans.

C. Further, the text suggests that the continents were all together as does science.

III. These physical realities suggest a moral/spiritual reality.

A. The ocean pictures wickedness--out of this comes the new humanity in Jesus Christ.

B. God expects fruit from our lives--this is the purpose that we are here.

C. Only by that which takes place through new life is it possible to have a fruitful reality.

1. There is a life of Christ that is within.

2. Only by possessing the new life can a Christian be what God wants a person to be.

3. God wants women to be meek and men to have strength of character, which takes the life of Christ.

4. The life of Christ in the believer is what is pleasing to the Father.

## **Application questions:**

1. What observations about Genesis that coincide with science struck you the most? Explain.

2. What does it mean that the new humanity comes out of wickedness as depicted by the ocean?

3. How have you failed to lean upon God for new life? How can one take encouragement from this?