

James 3:12~ **My brothers, a fig tree cannot produce olives or a vine figs, can it? Neither can salt water produce sweet water.**

1· James then takes his point further by showing that trees produce according to what type of tree they actually are. A fig tree cannot produce olives nor can a grape vine produce figs. The allusion here is that we will also produce speech based on the kind of person that we are, for what is inside the heart comes out through our speech.

[Question] How do fruit trees produce, according to what?

[Question] What is the allusion here to, regarding what is inside of us?

2· Also he shows that salt water cannot be made sweet for drinking for it is salty and there is no way to remove the saltiness. The allusion here is that bad speech ruins how we appear to others, causing them not to want to be around us.

[Question] How does the allusion of salt water, relate to how people view us, if our speech is salty?

3· By their fruits you will recognize them. Never do people gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles, do they? (Matthew 7:16)

[Question] How are spiritual people recognized, and how does this relate to their speech?

4· And God went on to say; Let the earth cause grass to shoot forth, vegetation bearing seed, fruit trees yielding fruit according to their kinds, the seed of which is in it, upon the earth. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:11)

[Question] What do all the things God made on earth reproduce according to?