

Unless We Acknowledge the Lord

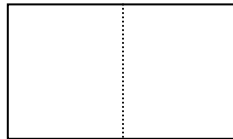
Introduction

When people acknowledge the Lord as the source of good and truth, they can bear good fruit as branches of the Vine. They know that the good and truth with them are gifts from the Lord.

But what if people know about the Lord, but don't acknowledge His role in their lives? Instead, they believe that everything good and true comes from them! We are told that the angels see such people as wild animals or a bird of the night. Or they compare them to the ruins of a burned city (*Coronis* 47). What a contrast to the fruitful vine!

Regenerated people are also compared to a sheep, dove, olive tree, or vine while people who are making *no* effort towards spiritual rebirth are compared to a panther, owl, bramble bush, or nettle! (*Conjugal Love* 526:2)

Project



1. Fold a piece of paper in half.
2. On one half, make a picture of the Lord as the Vine and people as the branches, bearing the fruit of useful activities.
3. On the other half, show what people are like when they do not acknowledge the Lord. Picture one or more of these things:
 - a ferocious wild animal (such as a panther)
 - a bird of prey that hunts at night (such as an owl)
 - the ruins of a burned city
 - a bramble bush with sharp thorns