



# MADE FROM CONCENTRATE

## THE ORCHARD

Picture this - the fruit trees stand in acres of orchard. We all have access to it, privileged to pluck away as we please - all fruit, whenever. The orchard is within reach to all, even to those who find it taxing - they can get there. Some pluck away at leisure, as much and as often.

They have so much they feel they ought to share with everyone else. They take it to the local marketplace. Some stalls have the fruit for free to anyone willing to eat. On some stalls the fruit is on sale from the lowest of prices to the most exorbitant of them. No-one is ever out of business as there are always takers.



Some business minded people buy bucket loads from the market and set up shop and sell theirs further on. From making fruit salads to selling it on as 'Real Juice' and 'not-from-concentrate'. The fruit salad is fruity, tasty, mixed with plenty other things. the most beautifully packaged produce gets more sales and the cleverest salesmanship gets more customers for his talent.

Further still there are those who produce dilutable juice or as some call it - squash - with preservatives. Some squash has real fruit content;



some is made up of imitation fruit created in laboratories. This type has the essence of the taste - it smells just like mango juice. It may even taste like mango.

The orchard is the Word of God. We all have access to it and yet some would rather hear it from someone else's interpretation. There is nothing wrong with interpretations - but when all you have is the interpretation and not the real fruit too - you will never know if or when there is something missing or wrong with the version of Word that you are hearing.

Spend time reading and studying the unadulterated Word of God for yourself. just like the Berea Christians would do in the scriptures.

*Acts 17:10-12 . . . Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men.*



That juice made from concentrate may be deceiving. The nutrients have been heavily diluted if ever there are any nutrients left. The best thing is to make sure that you have the experience of picking the fruit from the trees, you need the real, organic fruit with plenty of the right nutrients. Have some salad, freshly squeezed juice, diluted juice and whatever else - but not before you know the real fruit.



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*Matthew 22:29 . . . Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.*

This fruit may be mixed with other ingredients in different forms because it's sweeter, maybe even more palatable or easier to sell off. The plain ol' apple straight from the tree may seem kinda boring. So making it attractive may be with good intention. But it still leaves the recipient without sufficient fruit.

Let us not neglect the studying of the Word of God so that we may know the truth that comes from the Word of God without the suggestion of other ideas. Teachers, elders, pastors, mentors and leaders in general are there to teach, guide, pastor & lead but they are not the source.

*2 Timothy 2:15 . . . Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

*Joshua 1:8 . . . This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*

Can you imagine that some squash out there has no fruit content whatsoever? It is labeled in the name of the fruit but may have none of the fruit in it. Christian books, movies, preachers etc may be labelled as being Christian but if they do not speak according to the Word of God - the Bible says there is no light in them. They are just like the squash with the essence of the taste and nothing more.

*Isaiah 8:20 . . . To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.*

In all this, bear in mind that there are many orchards. Where the fruit comes from, is something

you will get to know when you spend time harvesting from the main orchard - from the Word of God. If anyone brings you Mango-Bongo Juice instead of Mango Juice, whatever the label, you will not be fooled.

This analogy can spread as far as you want to take it. The farmer is always there for you to get to know. He has a wealth of knowledge about the fruit, the trees, the soil, the environment. He created them. Spend time in the orchard, speak to him, listen to him, get to know who he loves and how he loves. Let his interpretation and version of the fruit be key in the eating of the fruit.

*Psalm 1:2-3 . . . But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night.*

*3 They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season.*

*Their leaves never wither,*

*and they prosper in all they do. (NLT Version)*

*Hosea 4:6 . . . My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.*

*Because you have rejected knowledge,*

*I also will reject you from being priest for Me;*

*Because you have forgotten the law of your God,*

*I also will forget your children.*

*Isaiah 5:13 . . . Therefore my people have gone into captivity,*

*Because they have no knowledge;*

*Their honorable men are famished,*

*And their multitude dried up with thirst.*

About the fruit itself - you will never get enough just from licking the fruit. You need to eat it, savor it, let it nourish you.

*Faith Morsi*