Message Outline



Galatians 5:19-26 NKJV

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Prologue
The first is a list of works. The second, a list of "fruit."

Works and flesh go together in a practical way and are things that we do, things we work towards, things we have effort in, and once completed, they are something that has been done—that is accomplished by their doing.

But Fruit is on a whole other level. They do not fit into a typical category.

The Flesh List
Paul gives us 15 *plus* different ways the works of the flesh can be executed in life.

They are *phaneros* (Gk.) - evident, clear, well known, even outwardly and public.

The Bible teaches that the works of the flesh do have earthly consequences (ex. Romans 1), and also have spiritual consequences - such will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

The Bible says all have sinned, inheriting death—extinction is the norm of the fallen world.

What is the context? Brethren?

It would seem that Paul HAS given believers a list of things that can disqualify a believer.

They must then question themselves if they are truly saved.

But go down this flesh list with a thin toothed comb, believer, and you will realize that you have committed some, many, or even all of these!

Careful: Satan will use the Word of God against you wrongly, too.

Listen to what the Bible says, concerning our salvation. This is the truth of the gospel:
Paul in **Romans 8:39** - *nothing can separate us from the love of God.*
Jesus in **John 10:29** - *no one is able to snatch us out of the Father's hand.*
Peter in **1 Peter 1:5** - *we are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation.*
Jesus in **John 15:16** - *I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.*

All believers are saved by the power of God. Not by the power of their works.

Romans 6:23 - *the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus...*

Eternal life means it will not go away.

Rest assured believer, you do not have to fear whether God loves you or not. Whether God still cares about you or not. This is satanic twisting of scripture in your head.

People often confuse the consequences of Godly correction with God hating you.

Correction is meant for restoration, not torture and desertion.

Can you imagine if we had relationships this way in church? But we do.

Religion emphasizes works, based on what you do, adds nothing to your righteousness.

Christianity is not a religion it is a relationship. But do not think that Christianity is only a relationship between you and God.

Condemning others for their faults, deserting them, and breaking fellowship is WORSE than the sins in the lists.

Galatians 6:1-2 - *Brethren, if a man is overtaken in **any** trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

The Fruit List
The Fruit is foreign to the believer—we all start born with flesh, not born with the Spirit.

Every believer when they place their faith in Jesus Christ, are given the Spirit.

It is a critical error to think that God has given you the Spirit for you to gratify yourself.

1 Corinthians 12:7 - *...the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one <u>for the profit of all.</u>*

The Fruit is beyond us, it is part of the whole Spirit Himself, living in the believer.

Responsive Conditioning - we sense something that affects our behavior.
Operant Conditioning - a change in the way you behave based upon external influence.

Disciplining children is Operant Conditioning. We are trying to get them to stop doing something or do things in a different or better way with negative reinforcement.

But punishment is not here, Paul knows it is impossible to stop doing evil. He admits this:

Romans 7 *18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. 19 For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.*

Not All About Me
There is only one place Paul can go: the cross (v.24).

Hebrews 9:14 *how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

Jesus was led to the Passion by the Spirit as He walked step by step to Calvary. There is no clearer picture of being in the Spirit than in Jesus.

Do you want to walk in the Spirit? How? How can we go beyond ourselves?
In the power of the Spirit—CRUCIFY YOURSELF.

The sole purpose of loving others, as Christ loved us, is to restore people—not condemn them, not to desert them, not consume them.

Let us love each other, as Christ loved us: Be led by the Spirit to the cross! Put yourself on that cross! And upon that cross, look down and love people.

God's desire for you is to be saved by Him, be restored by Him, and then to love like Him.

This is how we will survive extinction into everlasting life: Believe in the Savior of the World, Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved.

Jesse Cesario
Tokyo Baptist Church
July 29-30, 2023

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