I.XV THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT AND THE WORKS OF THE FLESH: Galatians 5:16-25 - Shepherd School

I. OPENING RAYER: All.

III. SERMON:

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT AND THE WORKS OF THE FLESH: Galatians 5:16-25.

INTRODUCTION. What is the Holy Spirit doing in your life as a believer? What is your still indwelling sin doing in your life as a believer? With that knowledge, what then shall you do as a Christian? That is what God teaches us in this text of Scripture.

CON(TEXT). Read Galatians 5:16-25.

DOCTRINE. You must walk by the Spirit because, if you are in Christ, there is a war raging in your chest between the Holy Spirit and your sinful flesh.

OUTLINE. There are at least eight major truths to make note of in these verses.

These are truths that you need to know, and then, therefore, act upon accordingly. These truths are also what you need to teach those in your charge and instruct them how to act accordingly for God's glory and their good. Listen and make notes, therefore, for yourself, your wife, your children, and Christ's church.

I. YOU MUST WALK BY THE SPIRIT (Galatians 5:16a).

Galatians 5:16a "But I say, walk (imperative) by the Spirit,"

Galatians 5:25 "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit."

- CALVIN: "The ruin of the church is no light evil, and whatever threatens it must be opposed with the most determined resistance.
 But how is this to be accomplished? By not permitting the flesh to rule in us, and by yielding ourselves to the direction of the Spirit of God."
 - MACARTHUR: "[This] indicates continuous action, or a habitual lifestyle. Walking also implies progress; as a believer submits to

the Spirit's control—that is, responds in obedience to the simple commands of Scripture—he grows in his spiritual life (see notes on Ro 8:13; Eph 5:18; Col 3:16)."

MANTON: "The better principle, when it is obeyed, the more it is strengthened; for 'the way of the Lord is strength to the upright' (Proverbs 10:29). The habits of grace increase by exercise: and the more godly and heavenly we are, the more we shall be so; and the more constantly we act grace, the more easily and readily we act it, and with greater pleasure and delight. The is a sure rule, that God rewards grace with grace: one duty is a help to another, and the sweetness and pleasure grows upon us every day. It is at first yoking that the bullock is more unruly; and beginners are burdened with the toil of obedience more than grown Christians. Christ's yoke grows more easy every day by the bearing; for the opposition is more broken, and the experience of the sweetness and goodness of this way is more increased (Proverbs 4:18-19). — Thomas Manton, Works, The Eleventh Sermon, Pg. 290

II. YOU MUST WALK BY THE SPIRIT, **BECAUSE THAT IS THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP AWAY FROM FULFILLING THE LUSTS OF YOUR INDWELLING SIN** (Galatians 5:16b).

Galatians 5:16b "and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."

III. YOU MUST WALK BY THE SPIRIT, **BECAUSE THERE IS A** WAR RAGING IN YOUR CHEST BETWEEN THE SPIRIT AND THE FLESH (Galatians 5:17).

Galatians 5:17 "For (because) the desires (lusts) of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do."

IV. THOUGH THE WAR RAGES, IN CHRIST, YOU ARE NOT UNDER THE LAW'S CURSE (Galatians 5:18).

Galatians 5:18 "But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law."

Christian men, you are not under the Law as a covenant of works, but you are under the Law in the New Covenant of grace, wherein the Law guides your duties to glorify and enjoy your triune God.

In Christ you are <u>NOT</u> free from the duty of the Law, but you <u>ARE</u> free

from the Law's damnation!

Yet there is no power in the Law. It is only a map. The power is in the person and continual work of the Holy Spirit. He is the fuel-giver for the Christian life. Yield yourself up to the Spirit's gracious influence, asking Him to empower you and produce fruit in you as you labor to walk under His power.

V. WHAT DO THE *LUSTS* OF THE FLESH LOOK LIKE WHEN THEY BECOME THE *WORKS* OF THE FLESH? (Galatians 5:19-21a).

Galatians 5:19-21a "19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these."

This is what your indwelling sin is doing in you, tempting you with the lusts of the flesh so that you gratify them and they become the works of the flesh.

I) SEXUAL WORKS OF THE FLESH

- I) **Sexual immorality**: This Greek word is where we get our English word "pornography." It refers to all illegitimate sexual activity—such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bestiality, prostitution, etc.
- II) **Impurity**: Sexual impurity or uncleanness. (**Rom. 1:24** "God gave them up to impurity...")
- III) **Sensuality**: Unbridled lust; Unrestrained sexual indulgence. (The men wanting to rape angels with Lot in **Genesis 19**)

II) IDOLATROUS WORKS OF THE FLESH

- I) **Idolatry**: Trusting in or serving created things rather than the Creator, however formal or informal.
- II) Sorcery: MACARTHUR: "Sorcery translates pharmakeia, from which we get pharmacy and pharmaceutical. It was originally used of medicines in general but came to be used primarily of mood-and mind-altering drugs similar to those that create so much havoc in our own day. Many ancient religious ceremonies involved occultic practices in which drugs were used to induce supposed communication with deities, and pharmakeia thereby came to be closely related to witchcraft and magic. Aristotle and other ancient Greek writers used the word as a synonym for witchcraft and black magic, because drugs were so commonly used in their practice."

III) RELATIONAL WORKS OF THE FLESH

• I) **Enmity**: Hateful attitudes.

- II) **Strife**: Bitter conflicts.
- III) **Jealously**: Hateful resentment cause by covetousness.
- IV) Fits of Anger (wrath): Outbursts of anger.
- V) **Rivalries**: Electioneering; putting yourself forward especially over and against others.
- VI) **Dissensions**: To stand apart; disunity.
- VII) **Divisions**: Creating new sects. The word can mean *capturing*.
- VIII) Envy: Spite, ill-will, jealously.
- IX) **Drunkenness**: Intoxication. (**Rom. 13:13** "Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.")
- X) Orgies: MACARTHUR: "Drunkenness and carousing (NASB) probably had special reference to the orgies that so often characterized the pagan worship ceremonies that many of the Gentile converts of Galatia had once participated in. In a more general and universal sense, however, they refer to becoming drunk under any circumstance and to all rowdy, boisterous, and crude behavior."
- XI) Things like these: this is not an exhaustive list!

Again...

This is what your indwelling sin is doing in you, tempting you with the lusts of the flesh so that you gratify them and they become the works of the flesh.

Here are your greatest enemies! Set your sights on them. Know your enemy and name your enemy or you cannot properly fight your enemy.

VI. WHAT IF THESE WORKS OF THE FLESH ARE SOMEONE'S HABITUAL PRACTICE? (Galatians 5:21b).

Galatians 5:21b "I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do *(practice)* such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

- **SPROUL:** "Paul's point is that those who do not exhibit the graces of the Spirit (v. 22) in their lives will not take part in God's eternal kingdom."
 - BEEKE: "While no sinner can enter God's kingdom by religious works yet he will certainly shut himself out by evil works (1 Cor. 6:9–11; Eph. 5:5–6)."

Christ is a better Savior and the Spirit a better Sanctifier than to leave a Christian powerless under the chains of sin!

VII. WHAT DOES THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT LOOK LIKE

WHEN ONE IS WALKING BY THE SPIRIT? (Galatians 5:22-23).

Galatians 5:22-23 "22 But the fruit (singular) of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

This is what the Holy Spirit is doing in you, producing in you, believers! To walk by the Spirit is to yield yourself up to what the Spirit is doing in you and to ask Him to continually produce this fruit in your life by His grace!

- I) **Love**: Willing self-sacrifice for the good of another (**1 John 3:16** "By this we know <u>love</u>, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.").
- II) **Joy**: Feelings of happiness that are based on spiritual realities— namely, Christ and being united to Him (**1 Peter 1:8** "Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,").
- III) Peace: The tranquility of mind that comes from being reconciled to God and having Him as your Father (John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.")
- IV) **Patience**: Slow to anger; long-suffering. (**Colossians 3:12** "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved...patience,")
- V) **Kindness**: Tender concern for others. (**2 Corinthians 6:4-6** "as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: . . .by . . .kindness,")
- VI) Goodness: Virtue or uprightness of heart and life. (Ephesians 5:8-9
 "at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk
 as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and
 right and true")
- VIII) Faithfulness: Loyalty and trustworthiness. (1 Corinthians 4:1-2
 "This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of
 the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be
 found faithful.")
- VII) Gentleness: MACARTHUR: "It is that humble and gentle attitude that is patiently submissive in every offense, while being free of any desire for revenge or retribution." (In the New Testament this Greek word is used to describe three ideas: I) submissiveness to God's will (Col. 3:12), II) being teachable (James 1:21), and III) being considerate of others (Eph. 4:2)) (Never used of God, properly speaking. Only used of

- Jesus in His incarnation!).
- IX) **Self-Control**: Restraining passions or appetites. (**2 Peter 1:5-6** "make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control,") (never used of God).

Again...

This is what the Holy Spirit is doing in you, producing in you, believers! To walk by the Spirit is to yield yourself up to what the Spirit is doing in you and to ask Him to continually produce this fruit in your life by His grace!

VIII. THE FLESH IS NO LONGER A REIGNING POWER IN THOSE WHO BELONG TO CHRIST, BECAUSE BY THE SPIRIT THEY CONTINUALLY CRUCIFY THE FLESH (Galatians 5:24).

24 "And those who belong to Christ Jesus [lit. Christ Jesus's] have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

- "Crucified the flesh..." ROBERT LEIGHTON: "It is really the Spirit of Christ in a believer that crucifies the world and purges out sin and forms the soul to His likeness. It is impossible to be holy not being in Him, and being truly in Him, it is as impossible not to be holy."

III. SONG:

Break (start back at 7:10pm)

IV. 1689 Confession: Ch 17. Par 1-3 (finish by 7:35pm)

V. DISCUSSION (finish by 8pm)

Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 3) discussion

Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices discussion

Closing Prayer

SYLLABUS

SHEPHERD SCHOOL - SEASON ONE (2025) - THE ONE TRUE AND LIVING GOD

WEEK	Scripture	Book I (read before)	Book II (read before)	1689 Confession	Certificate Essays	Certificate Exposition
1 8/14	2 Timothy 2:1-6 Why Shepherd School + Overview					
2 8/21	Deuteronomy 18:15-22	A Body of Divinity Christ, The Mediator of the Covenant + Christ's Prophetic Office by Thomas Watson	Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices A Word to the Reader, Introduction, Proof of the Point, By Presenting the Bait and Hiding the Hook by Thomas Brooks	Ch 8. Par 1-3		
3 8/28	Psalm 110:1-4	A Body of Divinity Christ's Priestly Office + Christ's Kingly Office by Thomas Watson	Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices By Painting Sin with Virtue's Colors, By the Extenuating and Lessoning of Sin, By Showing the Soul the Best Men's Sins by Thomas Brooks	Ch 8. Par 4-6	Short Essay on The Hypostatic Union	
4 9/4	Philippians 2:5-11	A Body of Divinity Christ's Humiliation in His Incarnation + Christ's Exaltation by Thomas Watson	Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices By Presenting God to the Soul, By Persuading the Soul, By Making the Soul Bold by Thomas Brooks	Ch 8. Par 7-10		First Exposition Due
5 9/11	Galatians 3:10-14	A Body of Divinity Christ's The Redeemer by Thomas Watson	Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices By Representing to the Soul the Outward Mercies, By Presenting to the Soul the Crosses, By Causing Saints to Compare Themselves by Thomas Brooks	Ch 11. Par 1-3		*Certificate path will meet in the office during 1689 and book discussion this week to discuss sermons
6 9/18	John 4:24 (Omnipresence) Psalm 147:5 (Omniscience)	A Body of Divinity The Omnipresence of God + The Omniscience of God by Thomas Watson	Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices By Causing Saints to Compare Themselves, By Polluting the Souls Judgements, By leading Men to Choose Wicked Company by Thomas Brooks	Ch 11. Par 4-6		
7 9/25	Revelation 1:8 (Eternity) James 1:17 (Immutability)	A Body of Divinity The Eternity of God + The Immutability of God by Thomas Watson	Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices By Presenting the World, By Presenting to the Soul the Dangers, By Presenting to the Soul the Difficulty by Thomas Brooks	Ch 2. Par 1-3		

SERMON TRANSCRIPT