

Gal 5:19-26

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, (Paul now mention the social sins) hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions (divisions), 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.

Ps 139:1-4

1 O Lord, You have searched me and known me.

2 You know my sitting down and my rising up;
You understand my thought afar off.

3 You comprehend my path and my lying down,
And are acquainted with all my ways.

4 For there is not a word on my tongue,
But behold, O Lord, You know it altogether.

Nothing escapes the Lord, so don't try to hide anything from Him.

Notice the first on this list is hatred. Hatred spawns the rest of this list.

Paul mentions other sins spawned by hatred in other passages such as:

Col 3:8-9

8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

People whose lives are under the power of sin

- hate what is good, hate the righteous and hate God.
- (1 Kings 22:8; Ps 69:4; Micah 3:2; John 3:20; 15:18, 23-25; 17:14).¹

We are to abhor what is evil and cling to what is good, Rom 12:9

Contentions. That's another word for "strife": It speaks of people who cause dissension, they wanna quarrel.

Jealousies: We have to be careful with this because it could lead to hostility toward another if they've got something we don't.

Gen 37:4

4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹ Fleming, D. (1990) "[Hatred](#)," *AMG Concise Bible Dictionary*. AMG Publishers.

2

In this verse we see two of the social sins. We see hate, and we also see the jealousy because Joseph was loved more than them.

Outbursts of wrath have to do with the temper or intense anger.

Most people have a hot button which sets them off.

We have to learn to control that.

Eccl 7:9

9 Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry,
For anger rests in the bosom of fools.

Selfish ambitions: looking out for ourselves

Phil 2:3

1 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

(1 Cor 10:24, 2 Cor 5:15, Rom 15:1, Job 31:17, 1 Cor 13:5)

Dissensions: those who would cause division or discord.

Heresies: Merriam Websters defines heresy as an opinion, doctrine, or practice contrary to the truth or to generally accepted beliefs or standards.

Mark 13:22

22 For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Envy: Again from websters, A painful or resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by another joined with a desire to possess the same advantage.

Ps 37:16

A little that a righteous man has is better than the riches of many wicked.

Murder: In the OT murderers were put to death.

Drunkennes: Drinking in excess

Prov 20:1

1 Wine is a mocker,
Strong drink is a brawler,
And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

Revelry: This falls in line with drunkenness.

Samson's life:

Philistines gouged out Samson's eyes, they imprisoned him.

- The Lord had left Sampson.

Philistines sacrificed to their god.

- they brought him out to perform for them,

The Lord strengthens Samson one more time

Samson kills about 3,000 people including himself.

But here is the good news when we look at people like Samson:

Samson was a man of faith.

He was also a man of the flesh,

- a man of many mistakes

His life serves as a great example

- of the importance of relying on God's strength,
- not our own power;

This also shows God's grace and willingness to forgive when we repent.

Time and time again after Samson sinned the Lord forgave him. At the end of his life he called to the Lord, saying, "O Lord God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once.

And the Lord strengthened him one more time. His life is an example to us that even when we've sinned and we repent, the Lord is willing to forgive us.

Gen 4:7

7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

When sin is knocking or crouching at your door don't open the door.

Listen, there are two lies Satan wants you to believe.

- 1) Just once won't hurt!
- 2) Now that you've ruined your life, you might as well continue
- 3) because God's angry with you anyway.

But that couldn't be further from the truth,

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control.

Notice the fruit, not the fruits of the Spirit. It's singular.

The fruit is characteristic of God Himself, and He wants us to exercise the fruit daily.

The first on the list is "Love."

A Pharisee once asked Jesus which is the great commandment in the law, Jesus replied:

Matt 22:37-40

37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Jesus' response was for them as well as us.

The Pharisees measured a person's righteousness

- by how they conformed outwardly to the law or commandments.

Today, people are creating their own rules of righteousness,

- they look at the outward
- and neglect the inward.
- They look only at the outward and neglect the inward.

The question is, "do we really love God with all of our heart, soul and mind and do we love our neighbor as ourself?"

If we were really honest with ourself,

- the answer would be that we do not.

The good news is

- that the law and commandments were given
- as "a tutor to bring us to Christ,
- that we might be justified by faith." (Gal 3:24)

joy - Joy is independent of circumstances. Joy is not happiness, they're different. Happiness is dependent on circumstances.

Joy is used more than 100 times in the OT.

But the ultimate source of joy and satisfaction came in Yahweh.

Ps 32:11

11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous;
And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

They rejoiced in Him and so should we because of His salvation.

When things have us down in life, remember, that we can be glad in the Lord and rejoice, we can shout for joy in the Lord!

David wrote:

Ps 40:16

16 Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;
Let such as love Your salvation say continually,
"The Lord be magnified!"

In the NT there are 8 Greek words for "Joy." The most prevalent being "Chara (Khar-ah)" used about 60 times and it carries the meaning, "Joy, calm, delight or gladness."

The first NT use was when the Magi rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. (Matt 2)

Interestingly, "cara" translated from Spanish to English is "face" as in, "our face."

SO WE CAN REJOICE, WE CAN SMILE, WE CAN BE JOYFUL IN THE LORD.

"Chará" is also related to the Greek words "*chairo* [khah'-ee-ro]," which means "to rejoice" and "*charis* [khar'-ece]," which means "grace."

Therefore, "*chara*" means "to rejoice because of grace."

Peace: The first step to having peace is to make peace with God.

Rom 5:1

That we've been justified by faith and we have peace with God because of what Jesus did for us!

John 14:27

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 heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

The end result of the Holy Spirit's work in our life

- is deep and lasting peace.

Worldly peace is usually defined as the absence of conflict,

The world will never be absent of conflict until Jesus is reigning!

The world needs a peace conference with the Prince of peace!

Then Paul said in Romans 14:

Rom 14:19

19 Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

The Hebrew word for peace is “shalom.”

Isaiah uses the word Shalom in Isa 26:3:

Isa 26:3

3 You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.

There is coming a day when men’s hearts will fail them because they never made peace with God.

Dan 9:27.

Luke 21:26

26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

Isa 57:20

20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea,
When it cannot rest,
Whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

God commands us to seek peace:

Ps 34:14

14 Depart from evil and do good;
Seek peace and pursue it.

Matt 5:9

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they shall be called sons of God.

Peacemaking often means that we have to bite our tongue, zip it!

True lasting peace will not come until Jesus Himself is reigning on the earth according to Isaiah 11.

longsuffering or Patience: Patience is one of those virtues which carries a lot of “W-A-I-T” and self-restraint:

2 Peter 3:9

9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

kindness (a quality that comes from the Spirit of God), It's generosity and it's required of us believers because God shows His generosity to us daily.

Isaiah 54:10

10 For the mountains shall depart
And the hills be removed,
But My kindness shall not depart from you,
Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,"
Says the Lord, who has mercy on you.

goodness (extension to those in need even if that person is unworthy or not entitled to our help),

Rom 2:4

4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

It was God's goodness that led us to repentance.

So how can we show goodness to others? The fruit of the Spirit is love!

Gen 50:13

20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

faithfulness (fidelity produced in a person that is yielded to the Spirit), It's keeping our word and being dependable.

Faithfulness is Jesus humbling Himself and becoming obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Phil 2:8

Listen, the world crowns success, but God crowns faithfulness. Which do you prefer?

23 gentleness/meekness/humility: It means to be under control),

Humility is shown when we consider other more important than ourself.

Rom 12:10

10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

Self-control: restraint exercised over one's own impulses, emotions or desires.

1 Thess 5:6

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

Against such there is no law (The law was put in place to tether the old nature.)

24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
(We are to be crucified practically, that is, Christ has been crucified for us positionally)

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.