

L15: Galatians 5:16-26: The Flesh vs. The Spirit

Sermon Intro: Review/Summarize

- Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free
 - Circumcision doesn't profit/avail, nor uncircumcision
 - Through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith
 - The profit or avail of Christ in our walk after the Spirit
- Suffer persecution
- Faith which worketh by love
 - Liberty not for the flesh, but by love serve one another
 - Love fulfills the law
- Bite and devour one another
 - Destruction not edification

Sermon Preview:

- The law and grace
 - The flesh and Spirit
- The law weak through the flesh, manifests the works of the flesh
- The fruit of the Spirit, against such there is no law
- Identity in Christ
 - Live in the Spirit, walk in the Spirit
- Not strife or envying
 - 1 Corinthians 3
 - Romans 13:8-14

Sermon:

Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

- "This I say then," - conclusion
- "walk in the Spirit" -
 - "walk after the Spirit" - Romans 8
 - To "walk in the Spirit"
 - Taught "love" already (Romans doctrine)

- Under grace, led by the Spirit and His teaching walk in it
- The "spirit" of God isn't in the letter of the law, but in the Spirit's teaching
 - Romans 7
 - 1 Corinthians 2
 - 2 Corinthians 3
- **"and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."**
 - Instead you will fulfill the righteousness of the law
 - Romans 6:12
 - Romans 13:14

Gal 5:17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

- Introduced in Galatians 1:13 - Paul persecuted the church of God (flesh vs. Spirit)
 - Galatians 3:4 - suffered so many things in vain
 - Galatians 4:15, 30
 - Galatians 5:11
- **"for the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh"**
 - The desire, affections, longing, eagerness, appetite of the flesh and Spirit are very different
 - Hallmarked by "love"
- **"and these are contrary the one to the other"**
 - Opposite; adverse; moving against; contradictory
 - **"contrary"** to expectation
 - Expect the law to produce the good of the desire
- **"so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."**
 - The law comes along and shows what is good, but manifests the weakness of the flesh
 - The flesh cannot do the good or righteousness of the law and the law only works through the flesh.
 - Romans 7

Gal 5:18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

- **"But if ye be led of the Spirit"**
 - Every believer has access to be "led by the Spirit" (Rom. 8), but you need to be "led of the Spirit" that is in your understanding, decisions, etc it proceeds from the Spirit's things within you.
- **"ye are not under the law."**

- Both in provision "not under the law, but under grace" and in the things in which grace provides it isn't the oldness of the letter, but the newness of spirit.

Gal 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

Gal 5:20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

Gal 5:21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

- The law manifests the work of the flesh (Romans 7)
 - The knowledge of sin (the sins of the flesh) (Romans 2)
 - Romans 1 works manifest by the law in Romans 3
- **"of the which I tell you before"**
 - Flesh/works/law doesn't inherit
 - Galatians 3:14, 29, 4:7, 30
 - Doesn't inherit regarding justification
 - Doesn't inherit regarding sanctification to glorification
 - Galatians 6:7-10
 - "the household of faith" - the law is not of faith (Gal. 3:12)
- **"as I have also told you in time past"**
 - Justification and sanctification
 - Romans 3
 - Romans 6-8
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 12
 - Ephesians 5:1-7, 4:17-32
- **"that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."**
 - Don't act like them (Rom. 1 - reprobate mind/Rom. 2 - worthy of the judgment of God)
 - Eternal condemnation not eternal life

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Gal 5:23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

- That fruit which proceeds from the Spirit
- All inward that do have outward influence and power
- "against such there is no law."
 - If you have these things of the Spirit then the law cannot be against you
 - You don't have a law saying don't do these things and the law held these things, but couldn't produce them through the flesh, but the Spirit leads us in them.

- These things are worthy of inheritance

Gal 5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

- **"And they that are Christ's"**
 - Those baptized into Christ therefore in Christ (Rom. 6)
 - "have the Spirit of Christ" (Rom. 8)
- **"have crucified the flesh"**
 - Romans 6:6 - the flesh is the body of sin
 - Sin was master of our body
 - Now we are free to use our body for His glory
 - Identity in Christ
- **"with the affections and lusts."**
 - In the gospel confronted with the guiltiness of these affections and lusts
 - Confronted and usually offended
 - These are the things worthy of condemnation - the things I desire, long for, and have an appetite for.
 - We are not condemned for lusting for things after the Spirit - therefore there is no longing for His things.
 - We have no light in us and if that light is darkness how great is the darkness
 - Until the light manifests the darkness and we receive that light and that light we become identified with (children of light).

Gal 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

- "If we live in the Spirit," - position in Christ (indicative)
- "let us also walk in the Spirit." - walk in Christ (imperative)

Gal 5:26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

- Instead "love one another" and you will be desirous of their glory not your own and when you are desirous of others you desirous of God's glory
- Instead of "provoking" that is strife and anger you will be provoked to love one another
 - Envy - uneasy at the superior condition of another
 - Such condition are determined by this world and you don't care of the things of this world

Sermon Conclusion: Review/Summarize