

# Introduction

First time ever  
volume  
control

## 1. Prayer

see document

## 2. Recap: Kingdom & World

- (1) Babylon came against God's people & assimilated them as exiles into their worldview & culture
- (2) Spirit of Babylon in our world does the same

## 3. Satan provokes & tempts the flesh

- (1) Turn to Eph / Gal / Rom

**Ephesians 6:10-20** - Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood...praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

# I. The Flesh Is Not The Body

1. You live in flesh & spirit

2. You live by ~~the~~ flesh or ~~the~~ Spirit

Galatians 5:16–18 - But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires 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. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

(1) Crucified Flesh

Galatians 5:24 - And those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the flesh** with its passions and desires.

Galatians 2:20a - **I have been crucified** with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me...

.. Dying to "self"

(2) Crucified "ego"

Romans 7:13–24 - Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, **sold under sin**. For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. **For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh**. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, **evil lies close at hand**. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law **waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members**. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

(3) Putting Gal 5 & Rom 7 together, the "flesh" is:

1. The ego, the "I" your old personhood before Christ

2. Includes passions & desires

3. Corrupted by sin & held hostage by Satan

4. None of it is good apart from Jesus

5. Producing an inner war

Ephesians 2:1-3 - And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

Galatians 2:20b - ...And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

(4) War is because the "I" is led by faith instead of by "the prince power of air"

(5) which brings us to "the Spirit"

## II. The Spirit Is Not The Soul

### 1. We have a spirit & are a soul

Heb. 4:12 - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of **soul** and of **spirit**, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

#### (1) The soul

The soul and the spirit are connected, but separable. The soul is the essence of humanity's being. Human beings are souls... its most basic sense, the word soul means "life"... The soul, as the life essence of the body, is removed at the time of physical death

#### (2) The spirit

The spirit is the immaterial part of humanity that connects with God... The word *spirit* refers only to the immaterial facet of humanity. Human beings have a spirit, but we are not spirits.

However, in Scripture, only believers are said to be spiritually alive... Whenever the word *spirit* is used, it refers to the immaterial part of humanity that "connects" with God, who Himself is spirit.

#### (3) Together - the center of spiritual & emotional experience

### 2. Our souls have the Spirit

If you said to yourself when I was describing the flesh, "Well, I have a lot of that still left in me," it does not necessarily mean you aren't a Christian.

A Christian is not a person who experiences no bad desires. A Christian is a person who is at war with those desires by the power of the Spirit.

(1) By the Spirit, I mean the Holy Spirit.

(2) When you trust Jesus

1. You are no longer under the dominion of the Flesh (Satan)

2. You are able to rightly connect your spirit & soul w/ God

3. You are set free from the hostage negotiation

4. You are given God's Spirit to conquer the flesh, perfect the spirit, to lead you.

5. Lead - not like pace car, but more like locomotive (power)

(3) War isn't all bad

1. No war = Flesh controls every outpost & occupies the citadel of your soul.

2. Take heart when your soul feels like a battlefield Spirit has landed to do battle w/ flesh

### III. Fruit Is Not Works

#### 1. The Lamppost of the Flesh: Works of the Flesh

Galatians 5:19–21 - Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

#### 2. The Lamppost of the Spirit: Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22–25 - But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

### 3. Keeping "in step" w/ the Spirit

(1) More later in series

**1. Walk away from sin.** Sin is disobedience to the revealed will of God. Walk away from sin by having the sin nature cleansed by pure righteous life of Jesus. When you receive Him, He gets your sins and you get His life. Walk, therefore, to the cross and leave your sins with Christ Jesus, by faith, today.

Works of flesh

**2. Walk away from works based theology.** The context in Galatia can be ours, too. Walk away from any idea that you can please God or satisfy God's righteous requirements and His punishment for sin by doing something yourself. You can't. It is cosmically impossible. But what God has required, God has provided through His Son, Jesus our Lord. Walk away from the bad idea of salvation by works, by ritual, or by any action or idea or person other than the Lord Jesus.

**3. Walk towards the truth of God's Word.** To walk in the Spirit is to walk in the Word. God the Holy Spirit breathed out the very Word of God. The Bible says that this, then, became flesh in the person of Jesus our Lord. Walk in His Word today and every day. Walk in His Word through this website and others like it that seek to keep you grounded in God's Word. Seek His Word and you will find Him. He will fill you as you breath in that sacred Word that He breathed out.

**4. Walk towards the Gospel.** Jesus said that He is the light of the world. To walk in the Spirit is to be following Jesus, for the Spirit speaks of Christ Jesus. The Spirit magnifies the name of Jesus. And the light of Christ is His all-pervasive grace and love.

**5. Walk in prayer.** Seek Christ and His life in daily prayer, in public prayer, and in meditation on God's Word. You, too, will be "staggered" by God's response to those who seek Him with all of their heart, soul, and mind.

# Conclusion

1. Every emotion is a vulnerability for the flesh

1. Joy
2. Anger
3. Sad
4. Hurt
5. Shame
6. Guilt
7. Lonely
8. Fear

2. Coronavirus: Respond in flesh or spirit?

1. Taken something from all of us; even if not life

2 Timothy 1:7 -...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Psalms 91:1-6 - He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD,

“My refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust.”

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence.

He will cover you with his pinions,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

You will not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.