

I. The Leadership of The Spirit of God (16-18)

A. A guiding principle (16) – “I say, then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh.”

B. A guaranteed problem (17) - For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want.

C. A glorious power (18) - But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

The Law stimulates the flesh, but the Spirit raises us above the Law and, therefore, also above the flesh.

II. The Lusts in The Hearts Of Humans (19-21)

“Now the works of the flesh are obvious...”

A. There are sexual sins (19) - “...sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity...”

B. There are spiritual sins (20a) - “...idolatry, sorcery, hatreds...”

C. There are social sins (20b-21a) - “...strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, 21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar.”

D. These are significant sins (21b) - “...I am warning you about these things - as I warned you before - that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

The continual practice of these sins signifies that the person practicing the sins has never been saved

III. The Life of the Spirit-Filled Christian (22-26)

A. Holy Spirit produce (22-23) – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things.”

B. Holy Spirit power (24) - “Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

C. Holy Spirit partnership (25) - “If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”