

Woodland Baptist Church
Morning Worship - September 2, 2012
Galatians 5:16-26 How is Your Walk?

1. Galatians 5:16-26

- a. **14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.**
- b. **16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 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. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.**

2. The _____ and the _____ are at _____ with one another

- a. ***Walk by the spirit*** - [peripateo] by the [pneuma] - to live or behave in a customary manner, with possible focus upon continuity of action —‘to live, to behave, to go about doing...by the Spirit - the Holy Spirit - _____ Spirit filled existence.
- i. Don’t live by the works of the law which will lead to _____ and cause you to bite and devour one another, walk by the Spirit in the freedom that the Spirit gives you from the bondage of the law...while not allowing it to become an opportunity for the flesh.
- b. ***You will not gratify the desires of the flesh***
- i. ***Gratify*** [teleo] to cause to happen for some end result—‘to make happen, to fulfill, to bring to fruition, to accomplish, fulfillment.
- ii. ***Desires*** [epithumia] to strongly desire, crave, what belongs to someone else and/or to engage in an activity which is morally wrong—‘to covet, to lust, evil desires, lust, desire.’
- iii. ***Flesh*** [sarx] the psychological aspect of human nature which contrasts with the spiritual nature; in other words, that aspect of human nature which is characterized by or reflects typical human reasoning and desires in contrast with those aspects of human thought and behavior which relate to God and the spiritual life —‘human nature, human aspects, natural, human.’
- a) **James 1:13-15** - 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own **desire**.

15 Then **desire** when it has **conceived** gives **birth** to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth **death**.

- b) **Ephesians 2:1-3** - And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 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— 3 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.**

c. ***The flesh and the Spirit are opposed to one another***

- i. ***Opposed*** [antikeimai] - to be hostile toward - to show hostility
- a) Consider the way the unbelieving _____ treated _____ and the _____.
- b) Consider the way that _____ is rejected and persecuted by the _____ [Cain vs. Abel]

d. ***This opposition keeps you from doing things you want to do***

- i. ***Doing*** [poieo] - to do, perform, practice or make

e. ***If you are led by the Spirit you are not under law***

- i. Led - [ago] to influence others to the point that they follow you.
- ii. Law - [nomos] *wrong use* of laws of the OT for the Jews, for the Gentile, the *elemental spirits that also enslave*.
- iii. **Romans 7:21-25** -21 So I find it to be a **law** that when I want to **do right**, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my **inner being**, 23 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**. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself **serve the law of God with my mind**, but with my **flesh I serve the law of sin**.

3. CLOSE

- a. This war exists in the soul of every born again believer in Jesus Christ. I deal with it and you will deal with it if the Spirit of God resides in your spirit.
- b. As Paul will teach us over the next couple of Sundays, there are things we observe about our walk with Christ that will let us know **how we are walking**. Does our walk look more like a walk of the **flesh**...or does our walk look more like a walk in the **Spirit**?
- c. Does our walk resemble Christ’s or the Enemy’s?