

The Battle Against Legalism Continued

(Galatians 5:19-23)

Sunday Evening September 5, 2010

1. In Chapters 1-2, Paul Responds to Legalism's Opposition against him.
2. In Chapters 3-4, Paul Responds to Legalism's Opposition against Justification by Faith.
- 3. In Chapters 5-6, Paul Responds to Legalism's Opposition of Sanctification By Faith.**

How Can I Be Spiritual?

- I. Not by Legalism (5:1-12)**
- II. Not by License (5:13)**
- III. But by Holy Spirit Produced Love (5:13c-26)**

A. Holy Spirit enables us to fulfill the essence of the Law (5:13c-15)

B. Holy Spirit enables us not to fulfill the flesh (5:16-26)

- 1. The Command (5:16)*
- 2. The Conflict (5:17-18)*
- 3. The Consequences (5:19-23)*

a. Consequences of the flesh controlling (19-21) are in three categories of works.

- 1) Four Sins related to Self*
- 2) Two Sins related to God*
- 3) Eleven Sins related to Others*

b. Consequences of the Holy Spirit controlling (22-23) are in three categories of fruit.

- 1) Fruit related to God: Love, Joy, Peace*
- 2) Fruit related to Others: Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness*
- 3) Fruit related to Self: Faithfulness, Meekness, Temperance*

1. A Distinction must be made between the gift, gifts, and the fruit of the Spirit
 - a. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the same as salvation (Acts 2:38)*
 - b. The gifts of the Spirit are God given abilities to serve the Lord (1 Peter 4:10). Every believer has the same gift of the Holy Spirit but the gifts of the Spirit vary in each believer.*
 - c. The fruit of the Spirit is a quality of character (Gifts are what we do. Fruit is who we are)*
Fruit can be absent when gifts are present (1 Cor 1:7)

2. A Contrast is made between works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit
 - a. The flesh works unaided by the Spirit. Fruit is grown by the Spirit
(A machine can produce a product but it can't grow fruit)
 - b. The flesh produces works (plural) and the Spirit grows fruit (singular)
Works of the flesh are separate acts performed by man and the 9-fold fruit of the Spirit is the issue of the one person: The Holy Spirit indwells us.

Three Applications

1. Christians are saved to bear fruit (John 15:16)
2. All Christians bear some fruit (Mt 7:20)
3. Christians bear fruit for the benefit of others (Gen 49:22)