

Sunday, October 1, 2023—Galatians 5:17 What Is The Flesh?

Galatians 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.**
- The word “lusteth” means to greatly desire.
- I Corinthians 10:6
- Romans 1:24, 6:12—the Holy Spirit desires what the flesh abhors, and the flesh desires what the Holy Spirit abhors.
- Galatians 5:17—the English word “flesh” is a translation of the Greek word *sarx*.
- Romans 6:6—the English phrase “old man” comes from two different Greek words *palaios anthrōpos*. Notice that the believers “old man is crucified” in Romans 6:6. Your “old man” is D-E-A-D, dead.
 - II Corinthians 5:17
- Galatians 5:17—if my “old man” is dead and I am “new creature” in Jesus Christ what is the flesh?
 - “Flesh refers to the old ways or patterns by which you have attempted to get all your needs supplied instead of seeking Christ first and trusting him to meet your needs.” (Gillham, 21)
 - “. . . God had not plan for joining His Holy Spirit to any person’s old sin nature. He had no plan to give birth to spiritual Siamese twins who are half sprit-child of Satan through Adam and half spirit-child of God through Christ. . . God would never set you for guaranteed failure by making you a “house divided against yourself.” I’ll agree tat my experienced and my feelings at times “tell” me I am house divided, but since God would never set me up for certain failure, I must search His Word to find another cause for my strife within. . . would God who taught all of the foregoing truths deliberately “set up” the Christian by giving him two conflicting identities, one loyal to God and the other equally loyal to Satan? No! Lost people have one master (Satan), not two. Christians also have one master (God), not two. But your former master constantly tempts and badgers you to submit to him again.” (Gillham, 91-92)
 - Our identity in Christ:
 - Romans 3:24—you are justified & redeemed (already).
 - Romans 6:6—your old self “old man” was killed (crucified).
 - Romans 8:2—you are free from the law of sin & death.

- Romans 15:7—you are accepted (unconditionally by Christ).
- I Corinthians 1:2—you are sanctified (set apart).
- I Corinthians 1:30—you have wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, & redemption (I am ransomed—restored to favor).
- II Corinthians 2:14—you are always led to His triumph (whether it appears so or not).
- II Corinthians 5:17—you are a new creature (Even though I don't always feel or act like it.).
- II Corinthians 5:12—you are the righteousness of God. (You can't get more righteous than this.)
- Galatians 2:4—you are liberated.
- Galatians 3:28—you are joined with all believers (not inferior to anyone).
- Galatians 4:7—you are a son and an heir.
- Ephesians 1:3—you are blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ.
- Ephesians 1:4—you are chosen, holy, and blameless before God.
- Ephesians 1:7—you are redeemed & totally forgiven.
- Ephesians 1:10-11—you have obtained an inheritance.
- Ephesians 1:13—you are sealed with the Spirit (Image the real you sealed up in the envelope of God Himself.).
- Ephesians 2:5—you are alive (formerly a dead spirit).
- Ephesians 2:6—you are seated in heavenly places in Christ (now/already).
- Ephesians 2:10—you are created for good works (And I can let Christ live through me to perform them.).
- Ephesians 2:13—you have been brought near to God.
- Ephesians 3:6—you are a partaker of the promise.
- Ephesians 3:12—you have boldness and confident access to God (not slinking like a “whipped dog”).
- Ephesians 5:8—you were formerly darkness, but are now light.

- Ephesians 5:30—you are a member of his body (not inferior to other members).
 - Colossians 2:10—you are complete in Christ.
 - Colossians 3:1—you are raised up with Christ.
 - Colossians 3:3—your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- “You are not grubby. You are glorious in your nature. The new natural you is really someone special. . . This means a supernatural life of agape, not a life of constantly striving to get your needs met. Jesus Christ want to express through you what the father expressed through Him, bringing love and hope to a hurting world, beginning with your own house.” (Gillham, 94-95)
 - Read the cordless drill analogy on pages 96 and 97.
 - “God plan was to execute the rebellious man and give birth to a new spirit-creation, one who adores Him and has His law of love written on his heart and mind. But He placed his new man into the same old earthsuit. It has the same old brain with the same old, green highways in it. . . That is going to cause a problem, because it’s going to be through those old, green highways that the Evil One, through the power of sin, will try to control the new man and get him to dance to the old tune.

The new man is born of Christ’s resurrection from the grave. The power of sin is now limited to the body. Flesh is a function of the brain.” (Gillham, 99)