

Galatians 5:16-21  
September 8, 2024

## The Conflict within the Children of God

1. What's at conflict? Galatians 5:16,17  
John 3:5-7
  
2. How can Christians be victorious in this conflict? Galatians 5:16
  
3. What's the true desire of a Christian? Galatians 5:17  
Romans 7:19,20
  
4. Where do the cravings and lusts for sin come from?
  
5. What are some of these cravings and lusts? Galatians 5:19-21
  - a. Corruption of Sex
    - i. Sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality
  
  - b. Corruption of Worship
    - i. Idol worship, sorcery
  
  - c. Corruption of Relationships
    - i. Enmities, strife, anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying,
    - ii. Drunkenness, carousing
  
  - d. Other Sins
  
6. What does a pattern of practicing sin reveal? Galatians 5:21  
I John 3:9,10  
Matthew 7:16

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1. When the flesh wins, you are committing acts that you lust for but don't deep down desire. It's a battle that you know you have lost.

### 7. How do you walk in the Spirit?

Those who practice "such things" will not inherit the kingdom of God. They are not in the same battle as the believer. There is only the conscience not the Spirit of God. Conscience can be warped, seared, to where it doesn't feel the wrong any more

8. Enmities
9. Strife
10. Outburst of Anger
11. Disputes
12. Dissensions
13. Factions
14. Envy
15. Drunkenness
16. Carousing
17. And o

What is the key to victory over sin in our lives?

Walking in the Spirit

2. Walk in the Spirit in order to overcome the lusts of the flesh
3. The Spirit and the flesh battle against one another.
4. When the flesh wins, you are committing acts that you lust for but don't deep down desire. It's a battle that you know you have lost.
5. The works of the flesh are evident to you. You recognize that they are foreign to the new nature God has placed within you.
6. Examples of these:
7. Those who practice "such things" will not inherit the kingdom of God. They are not in the same battle as the believer. There is only the conscience not the Spirit of God. Conscience can be warped, seared, to where it doesn't feel the wrong any more

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The works or the fruits of our sinful nature are evident. They are clearly immoral and ungodly. The conscience would therefore speak against someone in these matters. Unless, the conscience has been seared by continued sin or by the influence of a wicked society.

These deeds proceed from within mankind, to defile them.

Mark 7:20-23

3 Categories: Sex, religion, and relationships

Sex:

- sexual immorality:
- impurity
- Sensuality (The word has connections with idolatry because of the excess it refers to)
  - promiscuous and unprincipled in sexual matters
  - Excessive behavior, lack of restraint leading to sexual excess/indulgence

Religion:

- Idolatry
- Sorcery

Relationship:

- Enmities
- Strife
- Outburst of Anger
- Disputes
- Dissensions
- Factions
- Envy
- Drunkenness
- Carousing
- And other stuff

These sins are normal and continual in the life of an unbeliever.

These sins are abnormal and interruptive in the life of a believer.

Will Christians battle with some of these sins?

Will these sins be what characterized them?

Will they be uninterrupted, unrepentant actions of Christians?

There is a battle for becoming who God has made you to be. Who God has called you to be!

What are the lusts of the flesh?

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The battle within and the battle without

The Spirit of God creates a desire in us to love God, joyfully worshiping and obeying Him.

II Corinthians 3:17

The *second* sense in which we are not under law when we “walk by the Spirit” or are “led by the Spirit” is that then we don’t feel the pinch or burden of the law demanding of us what we have no desire to do.

One of the greatest themes of Chapter 5 is freedom. What does it mean to be free in Christ?

Walking in the Spirit doesn’t remove temptations, desires, or even all failures. But it does keep us from “fulfilling the lust of the flesh.” This means we will not follow it through to the end.

The reality is you want to do things that are wrong because of the old nature that has not been completely destroyed yet. However, you also truly want to love God, worship Him, enjoy Him. You desire to please your Savior

God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.

Thoughts, actions, and emotion

Where are you going? How are you getting there?

“If we live by the Spirit, then let us also walk by the Spirit.” Let us acknowledge from our heart that we are unable to please God without the Spirit’s constant enablement. Let us pray for that enablement. Let us trust confidently in the Spirit’s power and promise to give that enablement. Then let us do what we know is right. And having done it, let us turn and say with all the saints, “Not I, but the Spirit of Christ within me.” Thanks be to God! To *him* be glory forever and ever! Amen.