

# BOOK OF GALATIANS

## *“Crucified the Flesh”*

Scripture Reading: GALATIANS 5:22-24

- ) **SLIDES 1-6**. Bible Jeopardy!
- ) **SLIDES 7**. Read today’s Scripture text.
- ) **SLIDE 8**. Today we go back to our expository study of the Book of GALATIANS. This is message #40. I have titled today’s message *“Crucified the Flesh”* (v24).
- ) Beginning in 5:13, the thrust of this letter is how to apply the theology Paul has been teaching. Let’s sum up what we have learned so far in these few verses from chapter 5.
- ) **SLIDE 9**. GAL 5:16. Believers are **COMMANDED** to walk by the Spirit. It’s not a suggestion. It’s a command. The believer has been given the Holy Spirit as a GPS (God’s Providing Spirit). The Spirit will assist us in fulfilling this command.
- ) **SLIDE 10**. GAL 5:17. Believers are told there will be an inward **CONFLICT** in our attempt to fulfill this command. Why? Because the believer has not shed the sinful nature (the flesh) and that sinful nature does not want to relinquish power to the Holy Spirit.
- ) **SLIDE 11**. GAL 5:21. We are given a warning about continuing in an unrepentant **LIFESTYLE** of the deeds of the flesh. Those who continue to do so will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- ) The tone of this letter after v21 now shifts from the negative to the positive. Remember, there needs to be a balance in preaching. And now in v22 Paul introduces something called the fruit of the Spirit.

- ) The word “*fruit*” is used 238 times in the NASB Bible. This word is used in the very first chapter of the Bible, GEN 1:11, and the very last chapter of the Bible, REVELATION 22:2.
- ) **SLIDE 12.** In the New Testament the word “*fruit*” is sometimes the Greek word “*gen ma*” referring a product of plant growth. But most of the time in the New Testament it is the Greek word “*karpos*” referring to the effect or consequence of an action or operation; the result produced by an individual, a group of people, or a nation.
- ) A person, a group of people, or a nation can exhibit good “*karpos*” (fruit) or not so good “*karpos*” (fruit).
- ) **SLIDE 13.** PROVERBS 11:30. Positive sense.
- ) **SLIDE 14.** PROVERBS 1:28-31. Negative sense.
- ) **SLIDE 15.** MATTHEW 12:33. Words of Jesus.
- ) I think we get the idea. Our words and our actions speak clearly of what is truly in our hearts.
- ) With that meaning of “*fruit*” behind us, let’s look at this list of the fruit of the Spirit. And you do not need to be theologian to understand these 9 qualities. They mean what you think they mean.
- ) **SLIDE 16.** LOVE: is not a sentimental, sweet, affectionate emotion. It is a choice to put others first and to sacrifice ourselves on their behalf.
- ) **SLIDE 17.** JOY: is a delight of the mind, from the consideration of the present or assured approaching possession of a good.
- ) **SLIDE 18.** PEACE: freedom from agitation or disturbance by the passions, as from fear, terror, anger, anxiety or the like; quietness of mind; tranquility; calmness; quiet of conscience.

- ) **SLIDE 19**. PATIENCE: The suffering of afflictions, pain, toil, calamity, provocation or other evil, with a calm, unruffled temper; endurance without murmuring or fretfulness.
- ) **SLIDE 20**. KINDNESS: that temper or disposition which delights in contributing to the happiness of others, which is exercised cheerfully in gratifying their wishes, supplying their wants, or alleviating their distresses.
- ) **SLIDE 21**. GOODNESS: the physical qualities which constitute value, excellence, or perfection; the moral qualities which constitute Christian excellence; moral virtue; religion.
- ) **SLIDE 22**. FAITHFULNESS: fidelity; loyalty; firm adherence to allegiance and duty.
- ) **SLIDE 23**. GENTLENESS: softness of manners; mildness of temper; sweetness of disposition; meekness.
- ) **SLIDE 24**. SELF-CONTROL: is ability to control one's body and its sensual appetites and desires – physically and mentally.
- ) What is really on the inside will eventually reveal itself on the outside (the fruit we produce)—be it good fruit or be it bad fruit. A true believer will produce good fruit.
- ) **SLIDE 25**. So, what is on the inside of a person who claims to be a believer, a professor of the faith? And what has that person done on the inside to the deeds of the flesh? GAL 5:24 tells us this. The sinful nature and its passions and desires have been crucified.
- ) Let's ask the obvious question. What does it mean to crucify the flesh?
- ) **SLIDE 26**. GALATIANS 2:20. If Christ died (and He did for us), then we must die in some way too.
- ) Let's ask that question again. What does it mean to crucify the flesh?

- ) GotQuestions.org says this about crucifying the flesh: *“Paul’s instruction was inspired by Jesus Christ Himself, who said, ‘If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.’ Take up the cross is a figure of speech closely related to crucify the flesh. Believers are to behave like a person carrying his own cross to the place of his execution.”*
- ) *“Paul follows the Lord’s words to their logical conclusion. Not only must believers pick up and carry their cross, but they must also make sure their death sentence gets carried out. Crucifying the flesh illustrates the putting to death of selfish, sinful desires.”*
- ) *“Believers are to take their old sin nature and, figuratively speaking, nail it to the cross. We crucify the flesh through repentance of sin—by turning our backs on the old way of life, by saying no to selfish and sinful passions, and by utterly renouncing the flesh.”*
- ) **SLIDE 27.** ROMANS 6:12-13.
- ) Who or what is the master of your life? You? Jesus? Your sin? Your faith? Self? Love? Joy? Peace? Patience? Kindness? Goodness? Faithfulness? Gentleness? Self-control?
- ) **SLIDE 28.** GAL 5:22-23. If the fruit of the Spirit is our master, then there can never be a law against that lifestyle.
- ) As believers who are to walk by the Spirit of God, the deeds of the flesh must be crucified. We must crucify the flesh. We say goodbye to our selfish and sinful passions.
- ) John Doe has called the Spiritual police and has accused a person of being very loving, joyful, having an inner peace, being kind, good, and gentle, being faithful, having self-control, and being a very patient person.

- ) When John is asked by the Spiritual police if he could pick that person out of a line up, he says, “*most definitely.*” You are placed in that line up with 4 unbelievers. Will John Doe pick you?
- ) I pray that your transformation and mine is that noticeable.

8/8/2021 at Beech Grove Christian Church