

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - INTRODUCTION

I. CONTEXT OF GALATIANS 5:

A. Contrast of Law of Moses with Gospel of Christ

1. Freedom in Christ contrasted with (Law - yoke of bondage (v.1).
2. Some demand practice of part of law (circumcision) (v.2-12).
 - a) Debtor to do whole law (v.3).
 - b) Fallen from Grace - severed from Christ (v.4).
3. Called for freedom not license for flesh (v.13-15).
4. Gospel system revealed by Holy Spirit demands crucifying flesh- Manifest fruit of the Spirit (v. 16-26, cf. Rom 8, 2Cor. 3).
5. Led by Spirit - not under law (v.18; Rom.7:1-4).

B. No law AGAINST fruit of the Spirit (v.23).

1. Character has always been desired - love, joy, peace, etc.

II. ALL FACETS OF THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS TO BE SEEN IN OUR LIVES.

A. Works (plural) vs. Fruit (singular)

B. All nine characteristics must be manifested.

III. MANIFESTING FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT KEEPS US FROM A MERE NEGATIVE RELIGION.

A. Don't do bad things (pure) - but what do you do?

1. Parabolic example (Matt. 12: 43-45).
2. Avoid works of flesh but do you manifest fruit of Spirit?

IV. MANIFESTING FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT DEMONSTRATES INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

A. Demonstration:

1. Shows that the Spirit is controlling our lives through the word (Eph. 5:19, Col. 3:16, Gal.3:2, Rom. 10:17, Eph. 6:17).
2. Love, joy, peace, etc. are commands we obey (I Jn.4:7-11; Phil.3:1, 4:4, I Thess.5:16; Rom.5:1, Heb.12:14, I Thess. 5:13) - as revealed by Holy Spirit.

V. ORDER OF LESSONS:

A. Lesson one - LOVE

B. Lesson two - JOY

C. Lesson three - PEACE

D. Lesson four - LONGSUFFERING

E. Lesson five - KINDNESS

F. Lesson six - GOODNESS

G. Lesson seven - FAITHFULNESS

H. Lesson eight - MEEKNESS

I. Lesson nine - SELF-CONTROL