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The Works of the Flesh and the Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:19-26

Paul is continuing his discussion with the churches of Galatia that were facing a theological crisis.

There were false teachers who were leading them into false doctrine.

In the previous verses Paul admonished the Galatian believers to **“Walk in the Spirit** (It means to **“keep in S_____ with the Spirit”** or to be controlled by the Spirit...

It implies discipline, intentionality, and R_____ to the Spirit’s guidance.) **and you will not fulfill the lust** (desires...) of the flesh (sin nature...).”

In 5:19–26, Paul developed further the antithesis between the **flesh** and the **Spirit**.

I. The Works of the Flesh

“Flesh” refers to the fallen nature of all human beings.

Paul describes the works of the flesh by mentioning four categories of sins.

1. Sexual Sins

- **Adultery**
- **Fornication** (sexual immorality—“*porneia*”...)
- **Uncleanness** (impurity)
- **Lewdness** (debauchery/sensuality) (Jeremiah 6:15)

2. Religious Sins

- **Idolatry**

An idol is anything within the creation that is inflated to function as a

S_____ for God.

- **Sorcery** (witchcraft) (*pharmakeia*). It is the use of drugs to do H_____ to others.

3. Social Sins

- **Hatred** (Enmity/quarrels)
- **Contentions** (*Discord*)
- **Jealousies** A jealous person is someone who wants what other people have.
- **Outbursts of wrath** (*Fits of rage*) It can be uncontrollable verbal V _____ -
- **Selfish Ambition**
These are people who are given to S _____ and self-service rather than serving others.
- **Dissensions**
- **Heresies** (*factions/D* _____)
- **Envy**

4. Excess Sins

- **Drunkenness** The abuse of alcohol...
- **Revelries** (*Orgies*)

Paul Concluding Admonition (v 21b)

Paul's warning is not about **perfection** but a **pattern**.

I. The Fruit of the Spirit

The fruit of the Spirit is singular—meaning that these are not separate fruits but a unified whole.

- **Love** (agape) This is the God-like love.
- **Joy** This is inner G _____ rooted in Christ.
- **Peace** Wholeness, H _____ with God and others.
- **Longsuffering** P _____ with people (not just circumstances)
- **Kindness** Benevolence, active consideration of others.
- **Goodness** Moral I _____ and generosity.
- **Faithfulness** Loyalty, trustworthiness.
- **Gentleness** Humble strength, meekness, power under control.
- **Self-control** Mastery over one's desires and P _____.

Paul's Concluding Admonitions (v 23c-26)

This is a call to daily, active obedience, not just a positional reality. It is about aligning our behavior with our new spiritual identity.