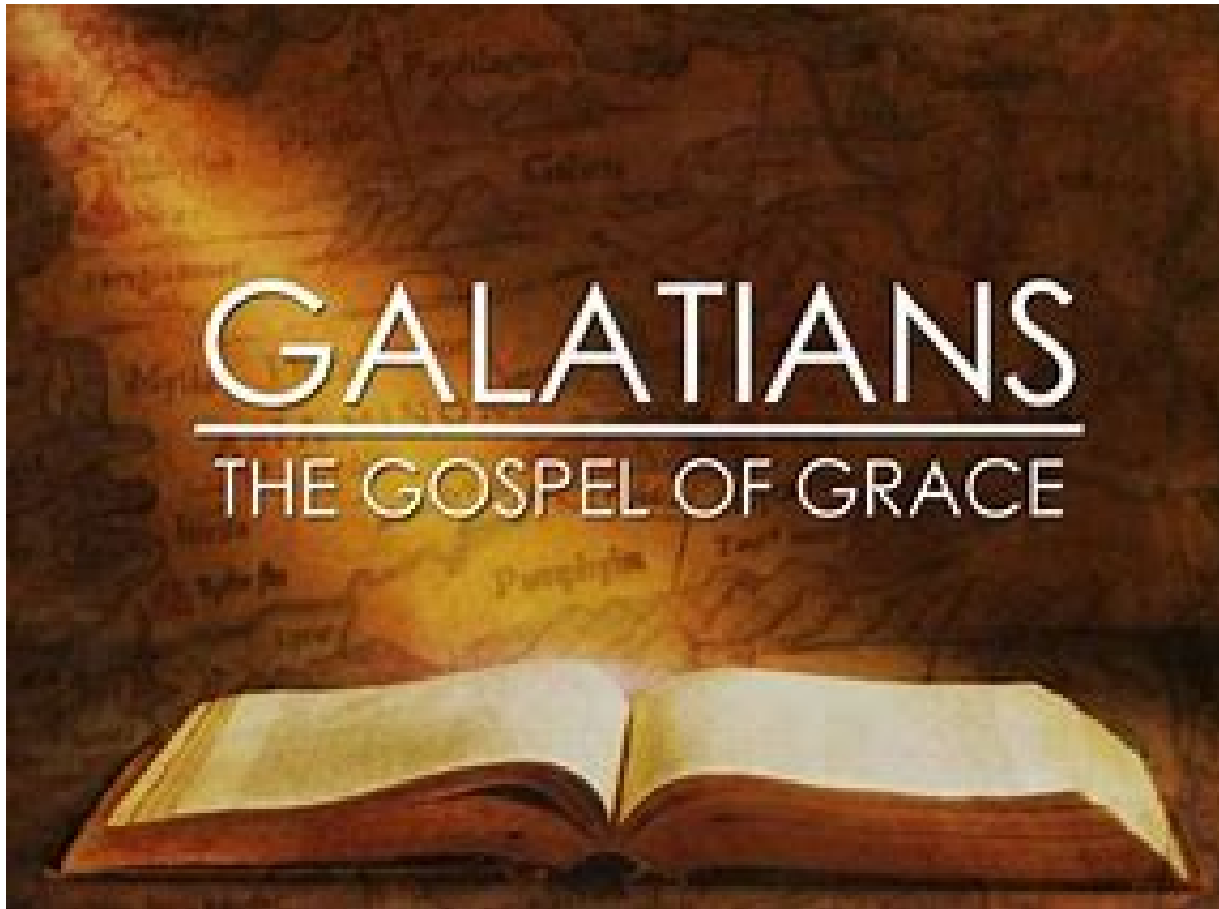




Gal 5:17-18





*Galatians 5:16-21 (NASB)*

***16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.***

***17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.***

We have the two powers described in these verses:  
The Holy Spirit and the flesh.

The Holy Spirit **is not**

- NOT an all pervading Divine influence,
- NOT a power,
- NOT a force,

- **He is a Person.**
- **He is God with the attributes of God.**  
**Omnipresence, Eternal,**  
**Omniscience, Omnipotent**
- **He has works attributed to Him such**  
**as**  
**Regeneration, indwelling, sealing,**  
**baptism,**
- **He has, is, Divine life with**  
**characteristics of that life.**

We are really talking about the **Two Men**:

**Adam and Christ**

# THE FIRST MAN

WHEN "*THE FIRST MAN, ADAM,*" SINNED, HE DIED POSITIONALLY—

- totally dead to God: spirit, soul, and body
- Thereafter his position was showed in his condition; he began to die experientially.
- In God's mercy, it was some 930 years before Adam fully experienced the inevitable outcome of his position of death.

## The Flesh

Due to the Fall, Adam became "*flesh*"--not only his body, but his soul and spirit as well.

*"My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that **he also is flesh**" (Gen. 6:3).*

- **The race spawned by Adam and Eve is "*flesh*."**  
*"That which is born of the flesh is flesh"* (John 3:6).
- It is not that the natural man has flesh, or is in the condition of flesh; **he is flesh.**

# Compare

## NON BELIEVER

- In the flesh
- Flesh in him
- The fallen Adam is the old man,
- he is the flesh;
- he possesses a sinful nature.
- One complete man.

## BELIEVER

- In Christ Jesus
- Flesh in him
- Indwelt with the Old Man
- We take ownership for our flesh
- We have a sinful nature  
*"in me (that is, in **my** flesh) dwells no good thing."* Romans 7:18



A man is a substantive or an **essential entity**,  
He is a person.

- The traits, or characteristics, of a man are non-substantive, and comprise his nature.
- A nature is a composition of attributes, and
- It is not to be considered a substantive or essential entity.

# Characteristics of the old man

## Positive

- love,
- joy,
- peace,
- longsuffering,
- gentleness,
- goodness,
- faithfulness,
- meekness, and
- self-control.

## Negative

- immorality,
- impurity,
- sensuality,
- idolatry,
- sorcery,
- enmities,
- strife,
- jealousy,
- outbursts of anger,
- disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these,

# **THE SECOND MAN"** (the Last Adam) –

- **Two natures, Two lives:**  
He is the Son of God, and  
He is the Son of Man.
- He is perfect God and Perfect Man in hypostatic union--**the oneness of the God-Man.**
- *(in Christian doctrine, the essential nature of Jesus Christ, in which the divine and the human are believed to be combined)*

# The blessed aspects of the Lord Jesus' divine-human life and nature are

**His** love,

**His** joy,

**His** peace,

**His** longsuffering,

**His** gentleness,

**His** goodness,

**His** faithfulness,

**His** meekness, and

**His** self-control.

**All positive--no negative. He was and is, and  
ever shall be, **impeccable.****

## THE POSITION FACTOR –

Consider the believer's **positional** history.

- Before anything was brought into being--the universe, the world, Adam- I, a **chosen, elect, and called person** was conceived in my Father's heart and purpose.
- (See Eph. 1: 4, 5; 2 Tim. 1: 9; Ps. 139:16).
- My Father called the world into being, and created Adam to be head of the human race for that world.
- **I was identified positionally with the source of humanity.**
  - When Adam sinned and thereby **positionally** died to God, I died in him.
  - When he became flesh, I became flesh in him.
  - When he was condemned, I was condemned in him.

# The rejected old Adam was replaced by the accepted new Man the Last Adam.

He subjected CHRIST to the death of the Cross in order to **rescue me from my Adamic death**

While the Lamb of God was on the Cross, my Father laid all my as-yet-uncommitted sins upon Him, and **His death for those sins freed me from their penalty.**

While the Lord Jesus was on that same Cross the Father identified me, in my Adamic life of sin, with His Son who was made to be that sin (2 Cor. 5:21).  
In Him, I died **unto sin--positionally.**

## MY ESSENTIAL IDENTITY –

- My Father, in eternity past, formed me **positionally** as an individual in His mind.
- He formed me **actually** (condition), at a later date, in my mother's womb.
- The Fall did not unmake me as a man, a particular person; my new birth does not unmake me as that man. What is intrinsic to my personhood I never lose; my identity is never changed.
- Whatever change I pass through in my new birth as to spirit and soul, whatever change awaits my body at the Rapture, I shall never lose my essential identity
- My crucifixion with the Lord Jesus did not affect my unique identity as newly created in Christ Jesus.
- Rather, it destroyed **positionally** all that I was in the fleshly Adam. *"Behold, old things are passed away,"* --positionally.

## **In the Lord Jesus**

- I am accepted in the Beloved,
- I am complete in Him,
- I am entirely sanctified in Him,
- I am perfect in Him.
- All of that, and more, has been held in spiritual escrow ever since the One who is my Life ascended to the right hand of the Father.

**All had to be completed positionally before a single Christian existed, because Christianity is founded upon the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ.**



# THE CONDITION FACTOR –

- I was born into this world in the life and image of the first Adam
- I grew up a condemned sinner, dead in trespasses and sins
- In His own time and purpose the Father called me [effectual], and by His grace I responded in faith, responsibly accepting the Lord Jesus as my Savior.
- At that moment the Holy Spirit, by His indwelling, brought the life of the Lord Jesus to be my Christian life.
- Then and there I entered into my **position** as a new creation in the Last Adam, with **my old Adamic life still abiding in my body of mortal flesh.**
- Remove that life and the Adamic body dies, for both unsaved and saved.

# In the Spirit's time

- ❖ I came to realize the positional facts in the Word concerning me.
- ❖ I saw that I had died unto sin at the Cross, crucified with the Lord Jesus.
- ❖ In time I learned not to struggle against the old man within, but to count by faith upon the **positional** truth of the Cross:
- ❖ I as a new creation had been taken out of the flesh, and been re-created in union with the risen Lord Jesus, seated at the Father's right hand in Glory (Rom. 8:9).

- As **I reckon my new self positionally dead unto sin**, the Holy Spirit progressively applies that finished position to my growing **condition**.
- I experience step by step the freedom from the reign of indwelling sin that was produced at Calvary.
- My condition begins to conform to its source, my position.
- Likewise, reckoning upon my position as "*alive unto God in Christ Jesus*," **The Holy Spirit centers my heart and mind upon the One in Glory who is my Christian life.**

## **2 Corinthians 3:18 (NASB)**

*<sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.*

**As I behold Him by means of the Word (2 Cor. 3:18), in personal fellowship and worship, the Spirit develops that completed life with ever-increasing growth, slowly conforming me to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

At the Rapture, I will receive my renewed body, like His glorious body. Then, and not until then, my body of mortal flesh will be instantly transformed into my spiritual body. The old man will finally be eradicated, and I will be in eternal condition what has been my position since my death and resurrection in Him at Calvary--yes, since My Father formed me in His heart in eternity past.