

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.



(you) **walk by the Spirit**

**walk** - *peripateō* – lit: to walk about; figuratively, signifying the whole round of the activities of the individual life (present, imperative, active)

continuous action in the present – our moment by moment living in Christ

**by the Spirit**

or by means of the Spirit

or through the instrumentality of the Spirit (Wuest)

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

and you will not carry out

lit: you will not, will not (double negative)

or you cannot, you will never, never (Merryman)

John 6:37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.

carry out - *teleō* – to bring to completion

put it together:

- You cannot, you will never, never bring to completion.
- It's an impossibility!



<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.



the desire of the flesh (the sinful nature)

desire - *epithymia* - a desire, craving, longing, mostly of evil desires, frequently translated “lust”

observations:

Paul is not saying you will have no desire of the flesh.

Paul is saying these desires of the flesh will not be brought to completion as we walk by the Spirit.

The desire of the flesh will be with us until we go home to be with the Lord.

# How do we walk by the Spirit?\*



## Overview:

- The Holy Spirit is the only one that can lead us.
- God the Father gives Him that responsibility.
- Therefore we are to be depending on His leading.
- So walking by the Spirit is walking by faith and depending on the leading of the Holy Spirit in the things of Christ and His Word.

## Important points:

- Walking by the Spirit is not baptism, indwelling, filling, etc.
- Walking by the Spirit is not self occupation nor occupation with the Holy Spirit.
- Walking by the Spirit is occupation with the glorified Lord Jesus Christ.
- It is: beholding Him, depending upon Him, Christ being our all in all.



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.

- the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit – present tense
- the Spirit (sets its desire) against the flesh - same

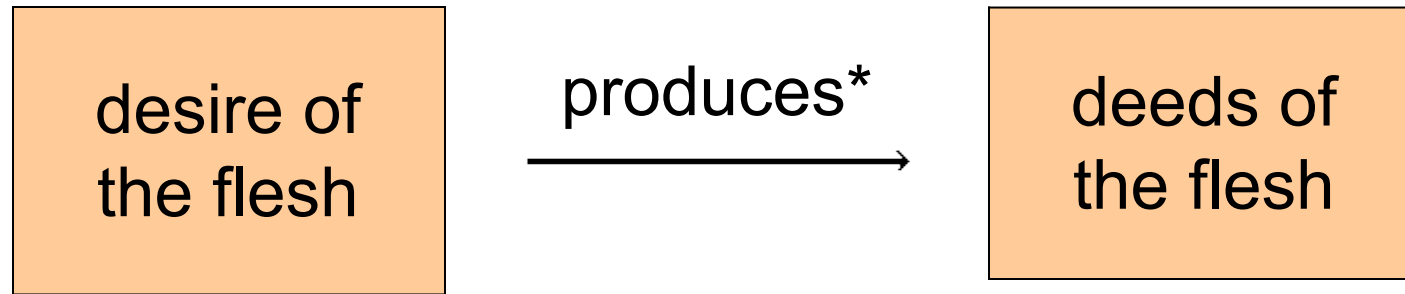
Rules of engagements of the battle:

- in our position we are in the Spirit - Rom 8:9a However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.
- in our condition or walk - we can walk in the flesh or walk in the Spirit
- All the desires of the flesh gratify self.
- All the desires of the Spirit find their source in God and are righteous.
- The Galatians tried to please God by works, not by faith.

19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, ---



- notice the change from “the desire of the flesh” in v:16 to “the deeds of the flesh” in v:19



- The deeds are the end product of “the desire of the flesh” in our thought, word and action.
- What a person does testifies to the source of his deeds.
- John 10:37 "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works."

\* to bring to completion

# Today's Outline\*



## The Dynamic of the Christian Life 5:13-26

1. An Outline of Liberty 5:13-15
2. An Outline of Spirituality 5:16-26
  - a. The Walk by the Spirit 5:16-18
  - b. The Works of the Flesh 5:19-21
  - c. The Fruit of the Spirit 5:22-23
  - d. The Believer's Position 5:24-26

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



**but** - *de* - introduces a contrast

examples of a contrast:

John 1:11 He came to His own, and those who were His own *did not receive* Him. <sup>12</sup> But as many as *received* Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

**What is the contrast in this example ?**

the contrast here is how we conduct our Christian life:  
by the flesh or by the Spirit



<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



**Subject:** the fruit - note it is singular!

**Modifier:** of the Spirit – tells us the source of the fruit

**Verb:** is – *eimi* – the state in which someone or something continuously exists – present tense

- so this singular “fruit of the Spirit” continuously exists as described by the list of attributes which follow
- each attribute exists simultaneously with the other
- these attributes identify the characteristics of the fruit of the Spirit

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



note: we have nine characteristics that comprise the singular fruit of the Spirit

**Could there be more than these nine?**

Eph 5:9 (for the “fruit of the Light” consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),

- Goodness\* – would encompass all 9
- Righteousness – an additional one
- Truth – an additional one

also remember the “deeds of the flesh” (v19-21) were representative and not a complete list

\* Mark 10:18b --- No one is good except God alone 25

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



- note these nine attributes of the fruit of the Spirit are all singular nouns
- Chafer says of the fruit of the Spirit:
  - Every word (of the nine attributes) as here used, represents a superhuman quality of life.
  - It is an exact description of the life of Christ;
  - but Christlikeness is never gained by the energy of the flesh.
  - These virtues are not found in human nature; they are the (singular) “fruit of the Spirit.”

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



- It is possible to group these nine attributes as follows:
- **God-ward attributes:** love, joy, peace
- **Other-ward attributes:** patience, kindness, goodness
- **Self-ward attributes:** faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

# The Attributes of the Fruit of the Spirit



**Love** – *agape* – This love springs from the value and preciousness placed on its object:\*

a) the object loved has worth to the one who is loving  
[John 3:16a For God so loved the world ]

b) this love places a high value on its object and sees the preciousness of the object loved [John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.]

c) this love prompts the actions we see in 1 Cor 13:7-8  
(Love) bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails ---

# The Attributes of the Fruit of the Spirit



**Joy** – *chara* - gladness of heart, delight regardless of circumstances\*

## a) source of joy is Christ

John 15:11 "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

## b) the condition of joy is abiding in Christ

John 15:4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

## c) the extent of our joy is totally complete, no lack and cannot be taken from us

John 16:24b --- ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

# The Attributes of the Fruit of the Spirit



## Joy (cont.)\*

### d. Grief and sorrow can be turned into joy

John 16:22 "Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you.

### e. Christ's joy can never be taken from us – John 16:22

### f. Christ is our great example of focusing on joy and not on our suffering

Heb 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

# The Attributes of the Fruit of the Spirit



Peace – *eirene* – many different kinds of peace in Scripture\*

- A. A harmonious relationship: between nations, between men and between men and God (peace with God)
- B. A state of peace within a nation/earth
- C. A state of rest in a believer's heart and mind (the peace of God)
  - 1. Definition of peace: no turmoil, no confusion, tranquility of mind, a heart and mind resting in the Lord





## C. Peace of God (cont.)\*

### 2. The source of peace:

- a. Christ - John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. John 16:33
  
- b. God - 1 Thess 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (5 times)

3. The condition of peace - Rom 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

## C. Peace of God (cont.)\*



### 4. The Results of Abiding in His Peace:

- a. Absence of a troubled heart & mind in life's trials Jn 14:27
- b. Absence of a fearful (frightened) heart & mind Jn 14:27
- c. Free from the tribulation (pressures & distress) of the world Jn 16:33, Rom 35-37
- d. We are called to peace – so let Christ's peace rule in your heart Col 3:15
- e. God's peace is imparted by communion with Him  
Phil 4:6-7
- f. God's peace through Christ:
  - Surpasses all human understanding Phil 4:7
  - Guards or garrisons our hearts & minds Phil 4:7

# Final Thoughts\*



As employed in the passage now being considered (Gal. 5:22-23), the nine words which denote the (singular) fruit of the Spirit represent superhuman qualities of character.

They could under no natural circumstances be produced by human ability; they are divine characteristics. Similarly, these nine graces taken together are constituted the one fruit of the Spirit. The singular form fruit being used is explained by the fact that these nine graces form an indivisible whole.

\* from L. S. Chafer