

**Reading:** Galatians 5:16-26

**Topic:** The Battle With  
The Flesh

**INTRODUCTION:** We face opposition of various \_\_\_\_\_ in our spiritual walk with God and one of the forces that we must \_\_\_\_\_ with is our own fleshly body.

## I. THE FALLEN FLESH:

### **A. The Avenue of Temptation:**

1. When God created man in His own \_\_\_\_\_, He created him in the state of innocence, but at the same time, He gave the Adam and Eve the power of \_\_\_\_\_ and the ability to disobey God. Gen. 2:16
2. The avenue of temptation that the serpent, the devil, used to deceive Eve into doing \_\_\_\_\_ was the through the \_\_\_\_\_. Gen. 3:6

### **B. The Same Avenue Of Temptation Today:**

1. The enemy of our souls has not changed his tactics and the same methods of temptation that he \_\_\_\_\_ back in the Garden of Eden are the \_\_\_\_\_ methods that he still uses today. I Jn. 2:16
2. When one examines the problems and sin into which everyone \_\_\_\_\_, it all comes back to the weakness of the \_\_\_\_\_ body in which everyone lives. Rom. 7:14-18

## II. THE NEW BIRTH:

### **A. The Old Testament:**

1. When the Old Testament Law was instituted by God, it revealed all the do's and don't's that the \_\_\_\_\_ expected of His \_\_\_\_\_. Ex. 20:13-16
2. There were more don't's than do's in the Ten Commandments, and in the rest of the \_\_\_\_\_ that God gave to His people, there were so many things ordained to discipline the \_\_\_\_\_, but unfortunately nobody could live up to the Laws of God. Rom. 3:10
3. The Lord knew when He gave the Law that nobody would be able to \_\_\_\_\_ up to its demands, thus at the same time, He also gave the Plan of the Tabernacle and \_\_\_\_\_ for sins. Heb. 10:1

### **B. The New Birth:**

1. In the discussion that Jesus had with a religious \_\_\_\_\_ named Nicodemus, He pointed out to him that what is born of the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ and what is born of the spirit is spirit. Jn. 3:6,7
2. What the flesh produces is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the flesh and none of it is pleasing to God and those who live after the flesh will not be saved but will be eternally \_\_\_\_\_. Gal. 5:19-21
3. Jesus said in order to go to Heaven, one must be born again, or in other words to have a \_\_\_\_\_ birth that is a spiritual birth that does not produce the works of the \_\_\_\_\_. Jn. 3:5
4. When Jesus talked of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ birth, He made reference to it being like wind blowing, a sign that happened on the Day of Pentecost. Acts 2:2-4

### **C. The New Life:**

1. When one is born again by the Spirit of God, there is now an avenue of \_\_\_\_\_ to be able to change and live a life that is pleasing to God on a \_\_\_\_\_ basis. 2 Cor. 5:17
2. Instead of living the life after the \_\_\_\_\_ and producing the works of the \_\_\_\_\_, there is now a New spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ inside that produces the fruit of the Spirit of God. Gal. 5:22,23

### III. THE BATTLE OF FLESH & SPIRIT:

#### **A. The Problem With The Flesh:**

1. When we are born again by the Spirit of God, it is our \_\_\_\_\_ that is born again, not our \_\_\_\_\_ and thus the struggle and \_\_\_\_\_ that goes on is between those two entities. Gal. 5:17
2. The flesh is one of our three principle \_\_\_\_\_, and it can be the most difficult to deal with because we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ our flesh – we live in it every day. Rom. 7:21-23
3. There are people who teach and believe that you can live after the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ at the same time, but the Word of God makes it clear that we cannot! Rom. 8:12,13

#### **B. The Ways To Win the Battle Over The Flesh:**

1. The Lord Jesus did not leave us without the strategy to deal with the \_\_\_\_\_, and the Word of God gives us the directions to winning the \_\_\_\_\_:
  - a. Prayer – one of our basic spiritual essential vitamins to get the \_\_\_\_\_ to overcome the temptations of the \_\_\_\_\_. Mt. 26:41
  - b. Fasting – this is a blow to the dominance of the \_\_\_\_\_ that seeks to \_\_\_\_\_ our behavior and keep us from having victory in the battle over the flesh. Is. 58:6; Mt. 6:17,18
  - c. Discipline – There are some things that we must make up our \_\_\_\_\_ to do ourselves because the Spirit of God will not stand in the way of our own human \_\_\_\_\_. I Tim. 5:22
    - Stay away from places of temptation, keep off the internet if you can't stay away from porn, etc.
  - d. Fellowship with the \_\_\_\_\_ kind of people. I Cor. 15:33
  - e. Walk in the Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ day. Rom. 8:5; Gal. 5:16

**CONCLUSION:** When we serve God, we have a daily decision to \_\_\_\_\_ - are we going to walk after the Spirit of God or are we going to follow the desires of the \_\_\_\_\_? God help us to make the right choice and win the battle over the flesh. Rom. 7: 24,25, Rom. 8:1