

Spiritual Enemy Number One: the Flesh, Part Seven

- Know your spiritual enemies.
- The Christian has two natures that are in conflict with one another (1 Jn. 1:8, 10).
- Galatians Five “works” *cf.* “lusts;” same thing, different emphasis (Rom. 13:13-14; 1 Cor. 10:6-7); “works” called “lusts”.
- Victory over the sin nature is achieved by being filled by the Holy Spirit—He makes up what is lacking (Eph. 5:18).

“Now the works of the flesh are plainly seen . . .” 17 works plus (Gal. 5:19): Sexual works **1-4**; Religious works: **5**. Idolatry: placing something equal to God. **6**. Witchcraft is religious superstitious awe. **12**. Seditions, or cliques: separation within the group. **13**. Heresies, misapplication of doctrine, distinct from perversion which is denial of truth.

Emotional Works

7. Hatred: open hostility, enmity, feud, enemy.

- A. The problem with Christian tradition.
 - a. WWJD (Jn. 2:14-16).
 - b. Sword (Lu. 23:35-36, 38 *cf.* Mt. 26:51-52).
- B. Different from other similar terms.
 - a. Not nonviolent hate.
 - a) Paul hated his sin nature (Rom. 7:15, Jud. 23).
 - b) God hated Esau (Rom. 9:13).
 - c) The Son hates lawlessness—sin (Heb. 1:9).
 - b. Not wrath another work of the flesh (Gal. 5:20).
 - c. Not anger (Eph. 4:26).
- C. Satan is our enemy (Mt. 13:25, 28-29, 39; Acts 13:10).
- D. A mind framed on the flesh is enmity to God (Rom. 8:5-7).
- E. Being friends with the World System is enmity to God (Jam. 4:4).
- F. Legalist are enemies of grace (Gal. 4:16).
- G. Because of Christ’s cross work God has no hostility toward men (Col. 1:20-21; 2 Cor. 5:19; Rom. 5:10).
- H. There are enemies of the Cross work (Phil. 3:18).
- I. Nonviolent hate may turn into hostility (Lu. 1:71).
- J. Hostility has no place in the spiritual life.