

Spiritual Enemy Number One: the Flesh, Part Eight

- 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 and such like (Gal. 5:19): Sexual works #s **1-4**; Religious works #s: **5**. Idolatry: placing something equal to God. **6**. Witchcraft is religious superstitious awe. **12**. Seditious, or cliques: separation within the group. **13**. Heresies, misapplication of doctrine, distinct from perversion which is denial of truth. Emotional Works #s **7**. Hatred: open hostility, enmity, feud, enemy.

Emotional Works

10. Wrath: held in burning adversarial emotion.

- A. Different from other similar terms.
 - a. Not nonviolent hate.
 - a) God hated Esau (Rom. 9:13).
 - b) The Son hates lawlessness—sin (Heb. 1:9).
 - b. Not hostility, another work of the flesh (Gal. 5:20).
 - c. Not anger (Eph. 4:26).
- B. God’s wrath always directed at unrighteousness (Rev. 16:1, 9-11 *cf.* Rom. 12:9).
- C. Human wrath followed by destructive behavior (Lu. 4:28; Rom. 2:8-9).
- D. Never should be directed toward another believer (Eph. 4:31-32; Col. 3:8-9).
- E. Longsuffering, which is part of the Fruit from the Spirit, is in opposition to misdirected wrath (2 Tim. 4:2; Heb. 6:12; Jam. 5:10).