

Spiritual Enemy Number One: the Flesh, Part Nine

- Know your spiritual enemies; they are hostile to your spiritual life.
- 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; Religious works.

Emotional Works *continued*

8. Strife (variance KJV), a contentious disposition, contrariness.

- A. Strife is different from #11 selfish ambition (strife KJV).
- B. Strife is included in list of unrighteousness, but not called sin (Rom. 1:29).
- C. Strife is included in list of works of the night (Rom. 13:13).
- D. Strife causing disruption in church activities (1 Cor. 1:11; 3:3)
- E. Strife may have the appearance of righteousness; however, it is a wrong motive (Phil. 1:15).
 - a. Paul using his apostolic ability judges motives (v. 15-16).
 - b. Misapplication of Scripture regarding judging (Mt. 7:1).
 - c. We are to judge actions not motives (Rom. 14:10, 5; 1 Cor. 6:1-4).
 - d. False reason used to mask selfish ambition (v. 18).
 - e. God honors His Word (v. 18).
- F. Strife can be a motive to change the social order (1Tim. 6:4).
- G. Legalism motivated by strife (Tit. 3:9).