

Spiritual Enemy Number One: the Flesh, Part 11

- Know your spiritual enemies; they are hostile to your spiritual life.
- The propensity for mankind to sin is called the flesh, sin principle and a nature: the sin nature.
- The most of the 17 works from the flesh are thoughts and must change form to become a sin.

“Now the works of the flesh are plainly seen . . .” 17 works and such like (Gal. 5:19): Sexual works; Religious works.

Emotional Works: 7. Hatred: open hostility; 10. Wrath: held in burning of adversarial emotion; 8. Strife (variance KJV): contentious disposition; 9. Zeal (emulations KJV): fervor to outdo others.

11. Selfish ambition (strife KJV): self-seeking drive.

- A. Translated: contentious, strife.
- B. Selfish ambition motives other works of the flesh (Rom. 2:8).
 - a. The lie is in opposition of the truth for initial salvation (Rom. 1:25 *cf.* 2:4).
 - b. Is unrighteous.
- C. Selfish ambition is used by the flesh to rationalize carnality (2 Cor. 12:19-21).
- D. Selfish ambition advances one’s self at other’s expense (Phil. 1:16 or 17).
- E. Selfish ambition prohibits fulfilling the New Commandment (Phil. 2:1-3; Jam. 3:14-16).