

The Christian's Racecourse

So you are saved, now what?

- I.** You are saved from:
 1. From eternal judgment;
 2. From separation from God;
 3. From the total domination of the sin nature.
- II.** Now you have three spiritual enemies: the world, the flesh, and the devil. The flesh is the greatest enemy; it's within (Rom. 7:21).
 1. The flesh fights a relentless warfare against our soul (1 Pet. 2:11).
 2. The flesh is also called the sin nature, or sin principle.
 3. The soul is the seat of emotions, interprets the five senses, and animates the body which includes the survival instinct.
 4. The flesh "works" on legitimate functions of the soul and corrupts them. These works produce strong desires (Gal. 5:19 cf. 17).
- III.** Overall description of the works of the flesh.
 1. There are 17 listed; however, "and such like" or "things like these" includes other works not listed (Gal. 5:21).
 2. Some are temptations that lead to the same act of sin—example murder.
 3. Some are temptations which change form to become acts of sin—example envying.
- IV.** The first four works of the flesh are corruptions of the Creator's design for procreation.
 1. Adultery—activity outside of marriage.
 2. Fornication—larger term which includes any procreation act outside of marriage.
 3. Uncleaness—verbal and mental undressing.
 4. Lasciviousness—public exhibition.
- V.** Marriage under Grace (M 19:4-6):
 1. Is one man, one woman (Mt. 19:4-6).
 2. Is counted by the Creator God as a unit.
 3. Is honored by God (Heb. 13:4; cf. 1 Tim. 4:3).
 4. Is the answer to the legitimate functions of the soul (1 Cor. 7:9).
- VI.** Conclusion: any temptation to reproductive activity outside of marriage is from the enemy within—the flesh.