

Galatians Handout

Week Twenty-Four

Review:

19 Now the works/deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

-Now the works/deeds:

-Of the flesh:

-Are evident:

Why the list?

-Because sin

-Because lists like this

-Because of the witness

-Because of the contrast

-Because it's a fight...

But I thought we were headed to glory! Why the warning?

Paul isn't undermining our assurance of faith, he is-

This particular list

Sexual sins

Immorality

Impurity

Sensuality

Our past can haunt us.

Religious sins

Idolatry: 1.

2.

Sorcery: pharmakeia

Social sins

Enmity/hatred

Strife/discord

Jealousy

Outbursts of anger/fits of rage

Strife/selfish ambition

Dissensions/factions

Envy

Addictions to pleasure creating substances or behaviors, showing no restraint

Drunkenness

Carousing

and things like these of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

The catch all...

Prideful wisdom

Arrogance

Verbose, windbaggedness

Hedonism/sloth

Sentimentality

Generational self-righteousness

Isolation

Psalms 92:12-15 – The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. *In old age they still produce fruit*; they are always green and full of sap, showing that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Grumpiness

Losing zeal for evangelism

Ps. 71:17 O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and grey hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Such things:

What else?

Communicable attributes

Non communicable

The fruit metaphor.

-It's natural:

Not the same as gifts, but they do overlap

-It's internal: organic not mechanical relational not religious

Yeah, they can be faked.

-It's gradual but inevitable:

Jn. 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, *he bears much fruit*, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

-It's symmetrical and singular: *All* of us has to become like all of Him.

Ephesians 4:2 With all humility and *gentleness*, with *patience*, bearing with one another in *love*, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of *peace*.

-It's absolutely necessary and indicative:

Mat. 7:15 "Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits.

Don't mistake gifts for fruit.

1 Jn. 4:19 We love, because He first loved us. If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar;

1 Jn. 4:12 if we love one another, (it's because) God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.

Jn. 15:3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me...6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned...8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so *prove to be My disciples*. Just as the Father has loved Me, *I have also loved you*; abide in My love...

11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

The messy paradox...

Who germinates? What causes the fruit to grow?

And yet...

Jn. 15:12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

Phil. 4:4 Rejoice (imperative) in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Heb. 12:14 *Pursue* peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

Eph. 4:2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. *Make every effort* to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Col. 3:12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, *put on* (imperative) a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience

1 Thes. 5:6 See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always *seek after* that which is good for one another and for all people.

Phil. 4:9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—*put it into practice*. And the God of peace will be with you.

Titus 2:1 But as for you, *teach* what accords with sound doctrine. Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled...4 and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled...Likewise, *urge* the younger men to be self-controlled.

What is our part in this metaphor?

Gen. 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it

Gen. 2:15 Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to *cultivate it and keep it*. The Lord God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”

Gen. 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’” The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will not die! For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

The tabernacle/priest

Passover

Mat. 26:27 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”

Before cross

After the cross

Jn. 19:41 Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. Therefore because of the Jewish day of preparation, since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

When He comes again

Rev. 22:1 Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him; they will see His face.

Micah 4:2 Many nations will come and say, “Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths... 3 Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they train for war. Each of them will *sit under his vine and under his fig tree*, with no one to make them afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.

Isa. 25:6 The Lord of hosts will prepare a lavish banquet for all peoples on this mountain;
A banquet of aged wine, choice pieces with marrow, and *refined, aged wine*. And on this mountain He will swallow up the covering which is over all peoples, even the veil which is stretched over all nations. He will swallow up death for all time, and the Lord God will wipe tears away from all faces, and He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken. And it will be said in that day, "Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation."

Discussion

Are you currently battling any of the sins of the flesh that plague aging believers?

What is the truth of the Holy Spirit that counters that sin?

What aspect of the fruit, what particular character trait, has God been growing in you lately. How has He been doing that?

The fact that the fruit is "of" the Spirit means it is an antidote to pride and an antidote to discouragement. Can you explain?