

## The Book of Galatians – Part 16 – The works of the flesh

Today I believe that there are going to be some serious adjustments that Father is going to make in us. If you would turn your Bibles to the book of *Galatians* chapter 5, we're going to do a very brief recap on the last lesson. Then we're going to move on from there.

*Galatians* 5, we're going to start in verse 17. As you know, we have been going through the book of *Galatians*. This is actually part 16 of the series that we've been doing. We're on chapter 5 and this is the fourth part of this chapter.

As you know, many have used the book of *Galatians* to say that we no longer are responsible for the Law of God; that we no longer have to keep the Law or commandments, or that these things are for the Jewish people. The Old Testament has been "done away with." There are a lot of things that we have heard, and much of that we have believed.

For me, in 2003 was when a transition began to take place in me. As many of you know and many of you have heard my story, I came out of the Baptist Church; the Pentecostal Church, the Calvinist, the Lutheran and the Independent. I've been through some denominations.

As I have shared before, if I had "out of body experiences," there were times when I would look at myself from the outside and say that I looked confused. It's like you're going from one denomination to another and I know that is what people were saying. I can understand them saying these things.

Most people; even members of my own family would say that they were born into a particular denomination and that they are going to die in that denomination. They believed that that denomination (if nothing else), was part of a family heritage.

But for myself, my goal and desire has always been to seek the truth. I remember when I first started going to the Baptist Church. I was fresh out of the world. I was fresh out of the bar scene. I remember worshipping, or should I say the choir was worshipping. They were singing. It wasn't worship. It was engaging the congregation and getting people to a place where they were (I guess), getting ready to hear the word.

The thing that I couldn't help but think as we were singing and swaying and rocking and having a good time, was that I remember thinking that this feeling that I am feeling is the same feeling that I felt when I was doing the clubs. I couldn't understand that. I really couldn't understand it because I wasn't in the club.

There is an expression that says:

“We still dance. We just have a different partner.”

I'm thinking that you know, we have a different partner, but the music sounds about the same as it was when I was out there.

As I started seeking and searching; looking at the Bible and thinking about what we were doing in the church and how that fits and how does it relate to the word, I was looking at the Bible. I was thinking that the things that we were doing didn't look like the Bible.

I remember one day that I went to a business meeting in the church. The Deacon and the Pastor were about to fight. I thought to myself that there is something terribly wrong, but I don't know what it is.

There are a lot of things that I learned back then, that because I didn't know any better, all I could do was to put them on the back burner (so to speak). But in 2003 I actually came to a place where things began to make sense. I've been on that journey until now. But I remember when the transition took place. Much of what I found myself

dealing with is a traditional belief system that *Paul taught against a lot of the things that the Old Testament was about.*

What I decided to do was to look at Paul and ask:

Did Paul actually teach these things that people say that he taught?

Or were people interpreting or misinterpreting what Paul wrote?

In the last lesson and the lesson before, we had an opportunity to allow Paul to speak for himself. When we looked at Paul teaching what Paul taught and living like he lived, it contradicts a lot of things that people say that Paul taught.

I think that the book of *Galatians* is the last bastion. If anything else, we would have to deal with it on a verse by verse study. It would probably be the book of *Colossians*. Then at some point maybe we should walk through the book of *Romans*.

In *Colossians*, we kind of dealt with a little bit of *Colossians*. I did a teaching on *Let No Man Judge You*. That came out of the book of *Colossians*. I encourage you that if you haven't got a copy of this, you ought to get one. I have a few DVDs that I'm going to point out for you today so that I don't have to go into those teachings again.

What I want to do here is to start off in verse 17 in the book of *Galatians*. This is where we left off in the last lesson. We touched on a couple of these verses. It says:

Gal 5:17 – “For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”

Something phenomenal happens when we say:

“Lord, come into my life.”

We don't see it, but there is something about that, that we feel that somehow we've made a transition. Now we're asking God to come into our lives and to help us. Unbeknownst to many of us, He does that. He comes in. The moment that He began to take residence in us is the moment that we start having these challenges within us.

You see, when the Spirit of the Almighty began to take abode in us, then up until that point we have known nothing but the flesh or the carnal nature or the sin nature. We have lived in a carnal state up to the point where we asked the Almighty to come into our lives and to save us.

Again, the moment He comes there is some friction that takes place. Paul has a way of putting it. He says:

“Where I would do good, evil is always present.”

When I want to do something, my spirit man wants to do the things that please the Almighty. But my natural man, my flesh, my carnal man wants to do the things that please me. We are constantly struggling with:

“Do I please the Almighty or do I please myself?”

Rarely, rarely are the two the same. Rarely is my desire to please myself in line with His desire for me. In verse 18 it says:

Gal 5:18 – “But if ye be **led of the Spirit**, ye are not under the law.”

This is a very powerful statement. This is a VERY powerful statement and it is powerfully true. If you are led of the Spirit, you are not under the Law. Paul makes a statement in another place. He says:

“The letter kills, but it is the Spirit that gives life.”

You see, when you try to live the Law apart from the Spirit, then what you have is something that is cold; something that is judgmental. Imagine this spirit:

“Well, that’s what the Bible says! I don’t care what you think. That’s what the Bible says!”

That spirit all by itself is not the Spirit of YeHoVaH. That is a natural man trying to live out the Bible without the Spirit of the Almighty living within him, while holding everybody else to the letter of the Law.

Let me tell you something. The Almighty is gracious. The Almighty is plenteous in mercy. The Almighty is one who desires for us to love Him because *He is love* and He loves us. Therefore even when I want to discipline and correct, there is a way to discipline and correct that is in line with Him. Or there is a way to discipline and correct that is in line with our carnal nature.

Paul speaks of this in *Romans* and *Colossians*. And in *Romans* chapter 8 where it talks about mortifying our flesh, man is at war against our spirit.

Ro 8:13 – “For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do **mortify** the deeds of the body, ye shall live.”

The thing of it is that most of us don’t see two people. We see one. You don’t see yourself as a spirit person. Now some of you have begun to look at yourself as a spiritual person, and I’ve shared this before. We are a spirit that lives in a body; not a body with a spirit.

When you look at yourself as a body with a spirit, then you become more concerned with this body than you are with this spirit man. We will feed this body, but we don’t feed our spirit as much as we feed our natural mind and our natural man. When it comes down to reading and studying

and walking in the Spirit, those are things that we do sometimes when we are always in the natural and in the carnal state of mind.

Ro 8:14 – “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”

*Colossians* says it again. Paul says it in *Romans*. Paul wrote *Colossians*. Paul does a lot of talking about putting to death this carnal nature. The carnal nature as he describes it in the book of *Romans* is actually referred to as “the flesh.” When we mortify our flesh or the members which are upon the earth, then we have to deal with a lot of these things that please our carnal fleshly nature.

Col 3:5 – “**Mortify** therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:”

Col 3:6 – “For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:”

The word he uses there is “*thanatoo*,” which means: to put to death; to make to die, to destroy. But I want to move into this verse. We are going to get into what are these works of the flesh.

Gal 5:19 – “Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,”

Gal 5:20 – “Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,”

Gal 5:21 – “Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like:”

The things that are associated with those things.

**“...of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”**

This is an important piece for me. I think that all of us in this room desire to spend our time in the kingdom. In the church they used to say:

“You know, you want to live in heaven.”

I believe (and hope) that everyone in this room would desire that when we die, we are in right relationship with the Almighty and that we will spend the rest of our eternal life (however long that is) with the Almighty. Is it safe to conclude that in here? Okay.

So if that is the case, then this list that Paul just listed says that the people who do these things (if that is your lifestyle), that is not going to happen. **If that is your lifestyle, you can forget about spending the eternity with the Almighty in His kingdom.** Is that safe to conclude that Paul is saying this? Okay, good.

Then let’s look at what these things are. I’ll tell you something. When Paul says that if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law, we need to know what it means to be led by the Spirit. I would say this to you, because I already do this for myself. I ask myself on a regular basis; even as I prepare my day. As I’m going through my day and I assess my day, I ask:

Did I live by the Spirit?

Did I walk in the Spirit?

Did I take advantage of every opportunity that the Father presented to me?

Did I recognize the opportunities that the Father presented to me?

Did I do something that I shouldn't have done?

Is there some repentance?

Are there some things that I need to get right?

I'm constantly assessing my life and my walk – constantly. Whether you know it or not, I'm doing that when I'm around you. I'm trying to be very careful about what I say and what I inject into a conversation. I'm trying to be careful that I don't find myself gossiping and slandering and backbiting and saying things.

If during a conversation I have engaged in something like that unbeknownst to me; or it is brought to my attention, then it is time to pray and repent and to ask that Father forgive us and that no harm would be done.

Our words are very powerful. When we release those words out there and not being aware of those words that we are releasing out there, those words are going to go to work. Just as Father says:

“When My word goes out of My mouth”

He watches over His word to perform it. If I'm speaking His word, then guess what? He's watching over it and He's making me mindful of it. But if I'm speaking words that are not His, there is somebody else watching over those words. If I'm speaking words that are of Lucifer or Satan or HaSatan or the devil or whatever you want to call it, then guess what? He's watching over those words!

When you release words, your words are going to work. Speaking of that, there is another DVD that we did, called *The Power Of Your Words*. I'm not trying to sell DVDs, although I wish you all to buy them. The teachings are available on our web site. We've made the teachings available, so that whether you buy them or not, you have access to them. You can listen to them. I know that these teachings will help you; especially if you like to talk.

Many words causes sin. If you are a person who likes to talk, pretty soon you are going to say something that you shouldn't say. The Bible says that we should be:

- Slow to speak
- Quick to hear
- Slow to anger

You will find that you don't trust people who talk too much, do you? You say:

"They talk too much. I can't tell them anything."

People who like to talk, look for stuff to talk about. When they run out of things to talk about, that's when they start delving into the secret things. You know all of those secrets you told them not to tell anyone? When they run out of words, it's like:

"Okay, now don't tell anybody!"

You all know how we are!

If you walk in the Spirit, here are some things you will NOT do. As I said, I assess myself. I'm honest with myself to say to you today, that I don't walk in the Spirit, all day, every day. I want to. I desire to. But all I need to do is to get around somebody carnal. If I'm around a carnal person for too long, I start becoming carnal.

"Evil communications corrupt good character."

You can't hang around certain people too long without taking on their attributes. If they are joking and telling jokes, pretty soon you want to come up with a joke. Let me tell you something about the human nature. The human nature is always trying to "one up."

What that means is that if you tell a story, then the person you told the story to, wants to tell a story that is a little bit more interesting than the story you just told. If they tell a story that is just a little bit more interesting than the story you just told, guess what? You are going to be looking for a story.

"Well, that's nothing. That's nothing! Listen to this!"

"The works of the flesh are manifest which are these..."

Remember that the person who practices these will not inherit the kingdom.

Adultery: "*Moicheia*" means adultery.

There are some folks out there who call themselves "swingers." For some reason they don't have a problem sharing their mate with someone else. I'm not one of those people. I don't even want you looking at my mate too hard! I'm just putting it out there.

But I haven't met a person yet who wants their spouse to commit adultery on them. If they don't want their spouse to commit adultery on them, then why would they want to commit adultery on their spouse? It doesn't make sense, does it? It doesn't make sense at all. But let me tell you something. Human beings do a lot of things that don't make sense.

Fornication: This is a big one that we got into in the last lesson. But fornication, the Greek word is "*porneia*." This word has a lot more connotation than just having sex without being married. This word deals with illicit sexual

intercourse. It encompasses adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, intercourse with animals, sexual intercourse with close relatives, sexual intercourse with divorced individuals; the worship of idols. All of these things are part of this word.

When we look at what Paul is saying here, we see that Paul is addressing something much broader than two people having a sexual relationship who aren't married.

Uncleanness: We are going to take a moment on this one. Many Christians don't have a clue what Paul is dealing with here. They think that there are certain things that are only in the Old Testament. Therefore when they look at certain things in the Bible, the average person doesn't take the time to say:

“Okay, what does this word mean?”

This word “uncleanness” ladies and gentlemen, goes very, very deep. The word is “*akatharsia*,” which means physical; in a moral sense: the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living; of impure motives. But it goes deeper. It actually means impure, ceremonial, moral [lewd] or special, demonic, foul, and unclean.

Interestingly enough, this is an Old Testament word. Not in the Greek, but it comes straight from the Torah. Let me show you in just a moment. This word means not cleansed, unclean; in a ceremonial sense: that which must be abstained from according to the *Levitical Law*; in a moral sense: unclean in thought and life.

Paul speaks of this in *2 Corinthians*. Again we have touched on this subject. It is also in a DVD titled: *Touch Not The Unclean Thing*.

Most people don't have a clue what the unclean thing is that Paul is telling folks not to touch. Paul makes a statement in *2 Corinthians* 6 where he says:

2 Co 6:17 – “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye **separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,”

“What do you mean touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you?”

Does that mean that if I touch the unclean thing that you won't receive me? I think that is what he is saying.

2 Co 6:18 – “And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith YeHoVaH Almighty.”

These unclean things that he is talking about here are things that people eat as well as things that people touch and things that people come into contact with. When you look at *Leviticus* 11, you will find them.

I never understood why in the Baptist Church, they bring the dead bodies right into the congregational setting to do a funeral. **Do you know that that is a violation of the Torah and it renders everything in that facility unclean?**

If you reject the Torah, then it means absolutely nothing. But Paul uses this term. Think about this for a moment. When Paul is talking about “unclean,” the only reference he has to anything unclean is the Old Testament because *there was no New Testament!* The New Testament never defines “unclean” or what it is that I'm not supposed to touch! It just says:

“Touch not the unclean thing.”

Well, what is it? If it is so important that I'm not supposed to touch it, tell me what it is! You will not find him telling you what it is, but Paul understands that the audience that he is speaking with would know what it is because it is clearly defined in the book that Paul is

teaching from. **All he has are the Torah, the prophets and the writings!**

Now he is writing to the Galatians saying:

“Listen. I’m writing to you to tell you, don’t touch unclean things.”

The Galatians are going to say:

“Well, what’s the unclean thing?”

Right? But do you know that people today don’t ask? They don’t ask!

“Well, what is it that I’m not supposed to touch?”

“Well, what is the unclean thing that Paul is talking about?”

“Where do I find this?”

You won’t find it in the New Testament; which means that you will have to go to what people were familiar with. You will find it all in *Leviticus* 11. Can I just touch on a few things? You see, when the Almighty says that these things...let me read these verses:

Lev 11:1 – “And YeHoVaH spoke unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them,”

Lev 11:2 – “Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, ‘These *are* the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that *are* on the earth.’”

He lists them. Let’s look at it.

Lev 11:3 – “Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, *and* cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat.”

Lev 11:4 – “Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: *as* the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he *is* unclean unto you.”

Does that mean that I can't ride a camel?

No.

Does it mean that I can't have a camel?

No.

I can ride a camel. I can play with a camel.

I just can't eat one.

What is really interesting is that people eat shrimp and lobsters and raccoons and opossums and catfish. They have some things to say about people who eat dogs and cats. They get really upset when they find out they've been fed some dog or some cat or some horse [meat]. It's like what's the difference? How did you come to the conclusion that you're not supposed to eat dogs and cats? Where does it say that in the New Testament?

How did you come to the conclusion that you shouldn't eat rats? Do you understand what I'm saying, ladies and gentlemen? Where do you get this mindset from; because it is certainly not in the New Testament? But you have people who will make a distinction of things that we're not supposed to eat. The question is, where did you get that understanding?

I'll tell you where you got it from. You got it from your society. You got it from your environment. You got it from where you grew up. When I grew up, man, I've eaten opossum. It has a tinge to it. I don't necessarily like it. I've eaten raccoon. You talk about some catfish?

I was a catfish-eating somebody! You get some catsup and hot sauce and some light bread as they used to say. Man, I'd hook up some catfish. Not any more. You see, I didn't know any better. But in my environment, we ate

these things. Here it is, and we were eating things and folks said:

“Man, you better stay away from that Chinese place because they serve cats and dogs.”

Well, the soul food restaurant served pig tails, ham hocks, pig feet, catfish, chitterlings [pork small intestines]. You have one culture who is saying to stay away from another culture while they themselves are doing the same thing.

Lev 11:5 – “And the coney, [rock badger] because it chews the cud, but divides not the hoof; it is unclean unto you.”

Lev 11:6 – “And the hare...”

Oh, I’ve eaten some hares, rabbits. As a matter of fact, there’s a place right down from where we live. They sell rabbits in the store. Now of course this is in South Carolina. You can buy stuff in South Carolina that is illegal in North Carolina. I’m thinking:

“Man they have rabbits up in here – unclean.”

Lev 11:6 – “And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he *is* unclean unto you.”

Lev 11:7 – “And the **swine**, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he *is* unclean to you.”

The swine is where we get bacon from; for those people who eat bacon. Now they have bacon on almost everything. They have bacon slushies, bacon ice cream. There are some

baconators out there; bacon lovers. They have bacon on everything.

**The Bible says that these things are not supposed to be eaten. They are unclean.**

Some places you go, you tell them. I've come to a place where I tell them. I know that some of you have come to a place where you don't go to restaurants that may even serve them. I've come to the point that I don't order anything that looks like it may have bacon in it. Here's the thing. If you tell your waiter:

"I want this, but hold the bacon."

The waiter doesn't necessarily completely communicate that with the chef. The chef is already in a mode that this is what this is. Here you are. They bring you something with bacon in it. You say:

"I didn't want the bacon on it."

"Oh, we're sorry."

They go into the kitchen and take the bacon off and bring it back to you. That burger is defiled already!

So as for the swine:

Lev 11:7 – "And the **swine**, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he *is* unclean to you."

Lev 11:8 – "Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcase shall ye not touch; they *are* unclean to you."

This list – if you read *Leviticus* 11 all the way through, you will find that when Paul is talking about "touch not the unclean thing," this is what he is referring to. It is the only way that you will know what it is that you are not supposed to touch. Are you with me today?

Then there is this word lasciviousness (“*aselgeia*”), which is unbridled lust, excessive, licentiousness, lasciviousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence, filthy.

You say:

“Well, that’s pretty out there.”

There are some people out there who are so lascivious. I remember. I was part of a congregation; a Pentecostal congregation. I remember one of the things that I would engage in my head. Everybody has to do whatever they do. For me, I have to find what works for me.

One of the ways that I overcame lust was through visualization. I would envision some of the grossest stuff. Whenever I saw someone that someone would say is beautiful or good-looking or all of that, I would envision them in uncleanness. I didn’t know anything about uncleanness then. All I knew what that I wasn’t supposed to touch it. I wouldn’t know what it was, but I would envision uncleanness.

I remember. I was sharing how I dealt with overcoming lust, with one of the elders in the congregation that I served in. I shared with him how I deal with this. I shared that these are mechanisms that I operate in to keep me from going down a path. Then I also visualize all the way to the end. You see, what some people don’t think about when they go out and commit fornication or they commit sin or adultery or any other unclean act; is that once you are done, now what?

Once you’ve lay down and had the sexual relationship that you’re body tells you that you just “have” to have. Now what? What are you going to do now? Now you have to deal with your conscience. Now you have to deal with all of these emotions that you ignored to get to that point.

If you are a husband or a wife, now you have to deal with what you are going to tell your spouse when you get

home. How are you going to cover this up? Worse than that, as a believer you are aware of the fact that even though no one else sees you, YeHoVaH is all up in it. Like:

“What are you doing?”

Just in case the first visualization doesn't work, I take the thing all the way to the end. Let me tell you something, ladies and gentlemen. Every person that you engage in [a relationship with] has a brain. There is no such thing as “casual” [sex]; especially if someone says it's good. That is because if you get something that is good, what's the response? You want some more! Can we just be real up in here?

So now what? Here you do something and now you want to walk away, but someone else's emotions are connected to that. Hello? Now you have a buddy, a partner that you may not want. You have someone who wants to take this thing to the next level; and if you are married...

The Bible says that **a man who commits adultery lacks wisdom**. How do you call yourself wise? You might be wise in your own eyes, but according to the scripture, you're just a fool!

There are people who, because they get into lasciviousness, don't think about anything else but satisfying this flesh. That's it! Those who are concerned with trying to satisfy their flesh are going to cross lines that are going to keep them out of the kingdom.

There are people who claim that they “love” Jesus. They “love” God, but all they can think about is satisfying their flesh. They are in the church with their hands lifted up. They are looking around; checking folks out. Wolves!

The churches are full of them. Synagogues are full of them. Messianic communities are full of them. Just because you are Hebrew Roots, you still have to walk in righteousness. You can keep the Law all you want to. That's a violation of the Law when you begin to walk in

areas where you become more concerned about satisfying your flesh than walking in the Spirit.

When you walk in the Spirit, you're not concerned about trying to satisfy your flesh. The flesh and the Spirit are at war with one another.

Idolatry: Idolatry goes beyond the worship of other gods or idols. It talks about the formal sacrificial feasts held in honor of false gods; of avarice, as a worship of Mammon. Then there is this scripture. Yeshua says:

“No man can serve two masters. You can't serve YeHoVaH and mammon.”

Which is money. The love of money is the root of all evil. Believe it or not, people who claim to “love” YeHoVaH, have a tendency to put money before Him. This is what keeps people from keeping and honoring the Sabbath. When you think about it, the biggest obstacle to people honoring the Sabbath is that they say that their boss or their job is not going to let them off.

What is interesting is that if you let them talk long enough, you'll find out that they don't even like the job. So it's not because they have such a love for the job. They have a love of money.

“Well, wait a minute brother. Are you saying that loving money and needing money are the same thing?”

Absolutely not. But you see, when you get to the point where you seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, this becomes a no-brainer. If you truly believe that He knows how to provide for you, you are not so concerned about what the boss is going to say. You can't serve two masters anyway. Are you going to let the boss man be the master, or are you going to serve the Master?

This is what I tell my children. Some jobs, some careers, you just don't even go down the path. I have a

degree in culinary arts. But in my culinary arts class; long before I came into the Hebrew Roots movement, there was something about culinary arts that I did not want. I didn't want to work on the weekends.

If you're going to be successful in the culinary arts field; if you're going to be successful in fast food or even sit-down [restaurants], then you might as well be ready to give up weekends, because it's just part of the territory.

Retail – I know that if I go into retail, it is going to cost me. In the retail industry it is very clear that all of the sales days – I didn't realize that all of the sales were on Saturdays; Fridays and Saturdays. Not Sundays, but typically on Saturdays. I had to miss a lot of sales. I'm a sales nut. I don't like paying full price. So here it is and all of the sales were on the Sabbath. I had to say:

“Man, I can't go there. I can't go there.”

But if you are going to be in retail, that's when everybody is off and that's the best time to sell. Retail says that that is when they make all of their money. So if I decide that I'm going to go into the retail arena as a business, I've already made a decision that I'm going to work on weekends. If I don't work on weekends, I'm going to have somebody working on the weekend for me. So what have I said? I've said that I'm choosing a path that is going to cause me to violate the commands.

There are certain industries that are out there that I know of. I tell this to my children. I wish they all listened. But all you can do is tell people. What they do is their life. They are the ones who have to live it. So why would you choose to go down that path?

If you choose a career; if you choose a path [as previously described], what you are saying is that you are choosing to go in opposition to the commandments of the Almighty (if you are going to be successful in that).

This is the kind of thinking – when I made a decision that my whole goal is to fear YeHoVaH and to keep His commands, it goes into every aspect of my thinking and living and all of my planning. I can't make plans without including Him in them! My thinking is:

“What does His word say?”

“What does His word say about this?”

“What does His word say?”

If I'm going to be successful, I know that true success comes from obeying His Law. If not, I gain the whole world and lose my soul.

Idolatry: Money and the love of it is idolatry.

Witchcraft: The interesting thing about this particular word is the word “*pharmakeia*.” Witchcraft in the Greek is the word *pharmakeia*. It is the use or the administering of drugs; poisoning; sorcery; magical arts; often found in connection with idolatry and fostered by it; metaphorically the deceptions and seductions of idolatry.

When you go to the doctor and the doctor says:

“Take this pill.”

We have for the most part, no idea what it is that we are taking in the form of a pill. But we trust the doctor to know. When the fact of the matter is that we know one thing about this pill. We might not see witches with wide-brimmed hats and pointed tops with long noses with bumps on the nose and standing over the fire brewing, we don't see that image.

The witches we see today are in white lab coats! They are in labs creating concoctions that they market to the masses. The masses have to trust that the concoctions that they created are going to resolve the issue for which the doctor is giving us the pill. In what am I putting my trust?

Before you think that I'm against medication, I'm not. I'm not against medication. There are some folks out there

and I understand. I have taken them. I will tell you right now. If I have to, if I absolutely have – I’ve been in a situation where it’s like:

“Man, I’m either going to have to take something, or you are going to have to cut this off!”

Have you ever had pain so badly that you just wanted (wherever it was) to just rip it off? I’ve had that kind of pain.

Here’s the thing that I believe that Paul is trying to get us to understand. You’re going to have to put your faith in something. You’re either going to have to put your faith into the doctor to prescribe something for you for whatever it is, or you are going to put your faith in the ultimate physician. There’s also this question:

“Okay, until the Almighty heals me, what am I supposed to do?”

This is where – you know, I’m not against medication. Let me say that to you. I’m simply presenting to you, what the Bible says about it. This idea of pharmakeia is drugs. So how do I get around it? I decided a long time ago that I’m not going to spend my last days on medicine. Our society has already groomed our society to think that when you start getting to a certain age, that you are going to need medicine.

I remember that as a child, you could go into the bathroom and we used to have this white box. It was right over the sink. It was a white box that had glass and you could open it up. It was called the medicine cabinet. It is like:

“Why do we need a medicine cabinet?”

Now practically every house has one. Whether you are a young couple in an apartment, they all have medicine cabinets. Why? It is because our society is saying to us:

“You’re going to need some medicine and you’ll need some place to put it.”

Of course you have Walgreens and the nice corner community stores. You have all of these Wal-Marts and every retailer out there is getting into the pharmaceutical market or pharmakeia. You have everybody pushing folks into taking medicine. Something is wrong with that! Do you know what it is? It is really a mindset. You can say to yourself:

“That’s where I’m going to end or that’s where I’m going to go.”

Or you can say:

“I’m going to trust the Almighty.”

And you can mean it. If you decide you’re going to trust the Almighty, then what you’re going to do hopefully is to trust Him in every area; not just in that area. Let me say again, I pray to the Almighty that I never, ever, ever have to take another pill. That’s my prayer. I hope I never have to. That’s not saying that I never will.

I know that just like cocaine and meth and all types of other illegal drugs; those things have a tendency to bring you under their influence. It is the same thing with any form of prescribed drugs. Drugs are drugs are drugs.

I remember when I went into a drug rehabilitation center back in 1989. The majority of the people who were in the drug rehab weren’t there because of illegal drugs. They weren’t there because they had cocaine addictions like I did. They were there because they had become addicted to prescription medications.

There were housewives and individuals who got hooked on some Oxycontin or some kind of pain reliever or some kind of sleep aid that now they “had” to have if they were going to sleep. They “had” to have this in order to function. It became an addiction.

They were there because of prescription drugs that are supposed be non-habit forming! Right! How are you going to prescribe a drug to help somebody sleep and tell them that it is non-habit-forming, but you need to take it every day to get a good night’s rest?

“At what point do I stop taking it?”

If you listen to that lie long enough, you’ll believe it.

Hatred: This is a big one among believers. “*Echthra*,” means issues of the heart that cause enmity or division.

Variance: This is another big one among believers, because of contention or strife (“*Eris*”).

You have people who don’t want to talk to one another because they are afraid that it is going to get out of hand. It is like:

“Okay, why are you coming to talk to me and you aren’t going to the person that you have an issue with?”

I knew there weren’t going to be a whole lot of “Amens” in this message! This is not to be pointing a finger at anybody. This is about self-evaluation. I’m looking at myself constantly. There were one or two of these in here that hit me. I won’t tell you which ones they were, but [I knew that] I had some work to do.

The Bible says that where there is contention and strife, there is confusion. Another term is envious. This word variance deals with strife, debate. This is where people get into arguments. People get into all kinds of debate or arguments over the scriptures.

Emulation: This one “*zelos*” is dealing with zeal. But this is zeal that leads to contention.

A lot of these words: hatred, variance, emulation, and another one, wrath, strife; all of these deal with stuff that goes on inside of us. All of this is going on inside of you. Some of us can put on a good face but the whole time we’re looking at somebody and we are ready to bite their heads off.

We’re looking at people and they are saying stuff; especially somebody who has crossed us. We look across the room and they are over there just laughing it up like they haven’t done anything to you. Do you know that you don’t like people that you have issues with, having a good time? Do you know what I’m saying? You don’t! Why? That should tell you that something is going on and that something is not right!

You see them over on that side [of the room] and you stay over on this side! You see them coming this way and you go that way. I’ve seen people trying to avoid me in the supermarket and I walk right up to them sometimes!

“Hey! How you doing?”

“Yeah, I know you saw me!”

(Laughter)

We’ve got to deal with these issues in our hearts, ladies and gentlemen, because you see, nobody knows these things are going on inside of you, but you. Unless you talk about it to somebody, no one will ever know that you are dealing with these issues. Father is there trying to say:

“Hey, why are you getting all tight? Why are you so tense? What’s going on?”

He wants you to be completely free. In order for us to be completely free from some of these issues, it means that

we have to sit down and have discussions we may not want to have discussions with.

Emulation. Again, zeal, jealousy.

Wrath: This takes it over to another level. “*Thumos*” means: passion, angry, heat, anger, forthwith boiling up and soon subsiding again. This when you blow [up]. You’ve taken enough and now you just blow your top. You just go off on somebody.

Strife: “*Eritheia*” means electioneering or intriguing for office. It’s something. I watch these presidential debates. Pretty soon it is going to get ugly. You know it’s going to get ugly. Everybody is playing nicely right now. But when it gets down to the top two or three, they are going to comb every nook and cranny to find all of the dirt they can to knock them out of the race.

It also means: partisanship, fractiousness. You will find that this is huge in religion.

James says:

Jas 3:14 – “But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.”

Where is this at? In your heart. Who knows that it is there? You. Don’t lie to yourself. Don’t lie to yourself!

Jas 3:15 – “This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.”

Jas 3:16 – “for where **envying** and **strife** *is*, there *is* **confusion** and every evil work.”

There is another word “*akatastasia*”. It is the same and it actually deals with confusion, disturbance, disorder.

In the Bible, Paul says:

1 Co 14:33 – “For YeHoVaH is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches [or congregations] of the saints.”

This word, seditions “*dichostasia*” means dissension, division. This is where division comes in. You know that sedition has been around when a community splits. These communities are splitting left and right around here.

I constantly have to deal with Messianic communities that are splitting and folks going their separate ways and taking half of the folks with them.

Heresies: “*Hairesis*” means the act of taking a city, capture, storming a city.

The interesting thing about a heresy is that there are some of us in this room who think that some of us are into heresy. (Laughs) You know? We have to work on this. I know there are folks who don’t like terms that I use. It’s like:

“When you preach, you can use the terms that you like.”

I’m not big on people telling me what I can say or can’t say, but that doesn’t stop people from trying! I’m nice. Halleluyah. I know there are some folks who don’t like me saying “YeHoVaH.” I know they don’t. It’s like:

“Well, you can say ‘Yahweh’ all day long. I don’t try to correct you.”

Or whatever other term you use. I’m not trying to correct you, so leave me alone. That’s all I’m saying. Just leave me be. Oh, it gets heavy up in there ladies and gentlemen! That’s because it deals with the Pharisees. It deals with the Sadducees. It’s among Christian communities, Messianic communities, Hebrew Roots communities, and it is huge in political parties.

Do you know what? When I want contact sports, I just watch politicians. Man, I'm telling you. There is some good stuff going on right now, you know?

You have House Speakers stepping down and nobody else wanting to step up. You have Tea Party folks who are ready to chop somebody else's head off. You have Democrats gearing up. You have Republicans fighting Republicans. Democrats fighting Democrats. I'm going to tell you. It's going to get real interesting. The Independents are just on the sidelines. But do you hear what I'm saying? They are out there and it's going to get ugly.

Envy: "*Phthonos*." I will tell you. I will put myself out there. I've had to struggle with envy. I've struggled with it because when you have a ministry and you believe that what you are doing is really life-changing, you look around and see a handful of folks. Then you look in other places and you see where there are all kinds of heresies and what you consider to be heresies and places are full and packed and stuff like that.

I have to search my heart on that. I have to deal with that. You see, your eyes will get you into trouble. They will. You'll see something that somebody else has. It's sad. You have people who are looking at other people and they get jealous. Whoo!

You have people ladies and gentlemen, who wish they had what somebody else has to the point where they can actually feel good when what somebody else has whom they envy starts having problems.

"I wish I had a husband."

"I wish I had a wife."

That's a big one, right there. You have single people envying married people and you have married people envying single people. It's like:

“Why can’t you just be happy with what you have in the state that you are in?”

“Why do you have to go to bed at night, crying?”

“Why do you have to be angry at somebody else because they got to them before you did?”

I’m glad to see brothers walk in, but I also know that when they walk in, they have targets. Can we just be honest up in here? A sister walks in and every single brother is like [looking]. Then it gets a little contentious if somebody gets to them before they did. They say:

“Aw man!”

(Laughter)

Oh, you know what I’m talking about. Don’t look like you were born today! I want everybody to have somebody, I really do! I want those who have somebody, for it to work. I do!

We really do have to learn to be content with were we are until the Father does something different. If we don’t become content in the state that we’re in, we’ll start trying to make some stuff happen. Remember the last time you did that? How did that work out for you?

Envyng is also jealousy, but it leads to ill will and spite.

Murders: “*Phonos*.” Murder, slaughter.

Yeshua said in *Matthew* chapter 5 (see *Mat* 5:21-26). He says:

“You’ve heard it said that you should not commit murder. But I say that whoever is angry with his brother without cause...”

There are people who are angry; some people to the point where they are willing to do anything. They take that anger and move into wrath. You can actually slander people. One of the things that happened among believers is if someone has wronged me and we're friends, I want you to know that. I want you to know that that person wronged me.

What happens if your friend is the person who is sitting over there laughing it up with the person who wronged you? Examine yourself. Examine yourself.

Drunkenness: "*Methe*" means intoxication, drunkenness.

We touched a little bit on this in the last lesson. This is when a person allows alcohol to become too much of a player in their lives to the point where your speech is slurring and you are staggering.

There are some things ladies and gentlemen as believers that we really need to stay away from. If you can't handle alcohol, leave it alone! If you can't have a glass of wine and stop, leave it alone! Do you hear what I'm saying? You have to be the manager of your temple. This is really what it is about.

To me, my walk, as important as it is, and as important as you are to my walk, the most important aspect of my walk is with my Father who is in heaven and who sees and knows everything about me. So I can hide my emotions and my feelings from you, but I can't hide from Him.

I intend and like to talk to Him every day; several times a day. Chances are, every time I have talked to Him and there are issues in my heart – you see, having a casual conversation with my Father in heaven is not normal if there are issues that are going on with me.

He wants to deal with the issues that are going on with me. He'll point it out. If I am the one who needs to make some changes and some adjustments, He is going to show me. He is going to point it out to me.

“You need to do something about this.”

I can choose to do something about it, or I can ignore it. I can get distracted and not do it. But the fact of the matter is that if I have a peaceful, harmonious life – as we’re going to get into the fruit of the Spirit, you’re going to see that the works of the flesh are totally opposed to the fruit of the Spirit. When I do these things in the flesh, I’m not walking in the Spirit. People want to say:

“The Bible says that if you are led by the Spirit, you’re not under the law.”

They are not being led by the Spirit and are not under the Law. It’s like:

“How are you not going to be under the Law and be led by the Spirit?”

**You can’t do both! You are either going to do one or the other!**

If I am led by the Spirit, that means that these things that are the works of the flesh are not going to be part of my nature. If they are and I want to be led by the Spirit, I’m going to have to do something about what’s in my nature. I can’t make excuses for a nature in me that is opposed to the Spirit that I desire to walk in. This is why Paul says:

“You are going to have to put some stuff to death. You’re going to have to address some issues.”

Revellings: “*Komos*.” This means riotous. This is nocturnal.

Do you know these people who like to hang out at night? People who are about good will and who want to do right; they are not necessarily out running the streets at night. If they are, you have to know that the people who are

out running about the streets at night (most of them) are not about going about trying to do good.

Where I come from, they say that “the freaks come out at night.” You are liable to see it if you are out there at night. People do stuff at night that they won’t do in the daytime. It means nocturnal or riotous. Hence it is used generally for feasts and drinking parties that are protracted until late at night and [where one may] indulge in revelry.

Then he says:

Gal 5:21 – “...and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of YeHoVaH.”

So [it means] the people who do those things and things like that. Paul says:

Gal 5:21 – “...and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of YeHoVaH.”

Paul writes a similar list in his other writings: 1 *Corinthians* 6:9-10 and *Ephesians* 5:5. You can look at those.

1 Co 6:9 – “Know ye not that the unrighteousness shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate,”

That word “effeminate” of course deals with men who like acting like women. There are a lot of them out there. There are women who like to act manly.

“...nor abusers of themselves with mankind,”

1 Co 6:10 – “Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.”

Eph 5:3 – “But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;”

Eph 5:4 – “Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.”

Eph 5:5 – “For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Messiah and of Elohim.”

We can go all the way into John and the *Revelation*.

Rev 22:13 – “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.”

Rev 22:14 – “Blessed *are* they that **do his commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”

Rev 22:15 – “For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”

Then he gets into the fruit of the Spirit. I want to close with these words: Both the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit are the result of what is going on in you.

**Both the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit are the result of what is going on in you.**

When I see a person go off, I know that there is something going on within them that I may not understand. If I can get them aside and talk to them, they may tell me why they are going off. When I see people who are going down a certain path, what I find is that there is something going on within that person.

If I'm going to walk in the Spirit, it is because I've made a conscious decision in my mind that I'm going to try to do the things that please the Almighty, every chance I get. That's a conscious effort that you and I have to make. You see, I'm not going to be led by the Spirit unless I make a conscious effort to be aware of the Spirit, all of the time.

That means that I have to be aware that I am going to pray without ceasing. I'm going to commune without ceasing. I'm going to walk with the Almighty. I'm going to live my life as though the Almighty is right here with me all day, every day. I would love to tell you that I do that every day, all day. I'm getting better. I'm working at it. I'm at least working on it. There was a time in my life that I wasn't working on it.

But now I'm looking at it. And constantly even when I am talking, I'm hearing myself. I'm hearing myself. Then do you know what else I'm doing? I'm catching myself before I speak. I'm thinking about how what I am about to say is going to effect this person. Do I need to say it a little differently? I'm becoming so much more aware of who I am as a person. Even my body language; I'm trying to watch what kind of message I am sending with my body language because you talk without talking, you know. We do things without saying a word.

“Why are you looking at me like that?”

“Like how? How am I looking at you?”

Think about that. Has anybody ever said that to you? You see, sometimes we aren't even aware of how we are communicating with our eyes and with our body language. When you become conscious of this, now what you are doing is you are taking your thoughts. You are taking your actions.

**You are taking yourself and bringing yourself under subjection to the Lordship of Messiah.**

That's really what it is about.

That means that I can't say what comes to my mind. I can't just open my mouth and let words come out. I can't just let my body say and do whatever it wants to do. I can't just let my eyes go wherever my eyes want to go. I can't just sit down and participate in any conversation without making corrections. I can't just let people say things to me or speak things over my life and allow them to stand.

I'm very much aware of the fact that every word that people are speaking has some kind of power. I want to make sure that the words that they are speaking don't have some kind of power over me and just let those words stand.

It's just like what the Torah says about a woman and a man. If a woman says something and her husband hears it and doesn't say anything about it, then those words will stand. But if he says something about it, then now that word that has been spoken can no longer have authority or affect.

We allow people to speak over our lives. If we let those words stand; if we come into agreement with those words, we give those people permission. Even though we don't realize it, we are letting people speak things over our lives and speak things into our lives. And we are sitting there nodding like we agree.

"No, I don't agree with that."

"No, I'm not letting that stand."

“You can’t speak that over me.”

“I’m not sick. I don’t care what I look like.  
No!”

You can’t speak over my children.

“Oh, that’s a bad little devil right there.”

“Oh, that’s a handsome little devil.”

It’s not a devil. We don’t raise devils; not even handsome ones.

“Oh, she’s going to give somebody a hard time!”

No, she won’t! We’re raising her. Do you hear what I’m saying? People just say stuff and you can’t let those words just stand. If you allow those words to stand, even if you don’t know that those words have power; when those words are released and you allow those words to stand, they go to work.

They are transforming the atmosphere and everything in it because you who has the authority to **bind or loose**, you are letting words; you are permitting things to take shape or to take power over you, over your life and over the things that you have influence over.

I know that this was a tough word. Some of you will say:

“It’s long overdue. It wasn’t that tough for me.”

Well, hopefully it wasn’t.