November 1, 2026 AM

THE STRUGGLE WITHIN
(Galatians 5:16-23)

I. The FLESH (Gal. 5:17)

A. Its CHARACTER

1. RESISTS all things SPIRITUAL

2. ENCOURAGES all things CARNAL

B. Its CORRUPTION

1. Focuses on things of TIME rather than ETERNITY

2. Prioritizes our DESIRES rather than God's INSTRUCTIONS

3. Wages unrelenting WAR against everything SPIRITUAL and GODLY within us

II. The FIGHT (Rom. 7:15, 22; Gal. 5:19-21)

A. Due to the presence of the SIN NATURE

B. Due to the presence of the HOLY SPIRIT

1. OPPOSES the DOMINION of the flesh

2. SUBDUES the OPERATION of the flesh

C. Develops a REVULSION against SIN

1. Does not mean a TRUE believer CANNOT SIN (Gal. 5:16; cf. Eph. 4:30; 1 Thes. 5:19)

2. Means that a TRUE believer will DETEST his own SINFUL ACTIONS

III. The FRUIT (Gal. 5:22-23)

A. DEVELOPED by the HOLY SPIRIT

B. DEMONSTRATION of a REGENERATED HEART

C. DESCRIBED as a SINGLE PRODUCT

1. In relation to GOD: love, joy, peace

2. In relation to OTHERS: patience, kindness, goodness

3. In relation to SELF: faithfulness, gentleness, self-control