

- in keeping with the entire theme of Galatians, Paul has previously educated them on the works of the flesh

*The law could reveal or "manifest" (vs.19) that they are guilty of one or all of these works
(The whole idea of the works of the flesh is to show the evil nature of man)

*now Paul contrasts these works to reveal what should be in the heart of a true believer
vs.22- "fruit"- (karpos) what originates from something, an effect or result

*the singularity of these word indicates that all these characteristics should be visible in believers
- Notice how the first three are a direct relation to God, next three are in relation to others, and the last three are in relation to one's inner life (God, others, self)

- "love"- (agape) the deepest of all love

(This love is sacrificial in nature and is a selfless love- it stands in contrast to the self-centeredness of the sexual sins Paul mentions first in the previous verses)

- Jesus teaches His disciples this multiple times (John 13:34-35, 15:12-17)

*this love is of respect and devotion that leads to a willing service

- "joy"- (chara) an inner contentment that is based on unchanging promises and eternal realities
- this word also has the implication of a person being content as they realize that they are someone else's joy (the Spirit brings us joy because we are His joy)

*this characteristic is only present in believers and when one has the assurance that all is well between them and God

Truth- joy in a heart is not bases on circumstances (it cannot be manufactured)

- "peace"- (eirene) the inner calmness that comes from one's confidence in Christ, tranquility

*the assurance of our salvation brings this peace and the world cannot take it away

Truth- just like joy, peace is not based on circumstances

- relation to others- "long-suffering"- (makrothumia) patience, endurance, constancy

- this word also has the idea of a slowness in avenging a wrong (Luke 6:29, Rom.12:19)

- "gentleness"- (chrestotes) moral goodness, integrity with a kind disposition

- this word comes in to play when you are dealing with someone in traffic

- "goodness"- (agathosune) an upright heart and life

*gentleness is the outward manifestation of the goodness within (these 3 must work together)

Truth- goodness is the trait that enables the believer to abstain from all appearances of evil
(I Thess.5:22)

- relation inward- "faith"- (pistis) a strong conviction that Jesus is in fact the Messiah

*this is a confidence that manifests itself in fidelity and faithfulness

vs.23- "meekness"- (prawtes) a mild disposition, a controlled strength

- this word has the idea of having a listening ear to what God is saying to you

*Scripture teaches us that meekness is described in 3 attitudes

1- submission to the Will of God- Col.3:12 2- being teachable- James 1:21

3- consideration of others- Eph.4:2 (God, others, and self)

- "temperance"- (egkrateia) self-control, one who masters desires, passions, and sensual appetites

- "no law"- when a person walks in the Spirit an fruit is manifested, there's no nee for external law
vs.24- when the corrupt passions of the soul have been put to death (crucified) they no longer have any power or control over us

vs.25- even though we have power to overcome those corrupt passions, we must remember where that power comes from - the Holy Spirit

Truth- if a person lives and walks in the Spirit then the things that grieve the Spirit will also grieve them

vs.26- "vain glory"- self-absorbed or conceited

- "provoking and envying"- meaning to be against each other and being jealous of each other

*people who do this and act like that are not walking in the Spirit- How can we know that?

(The Holy Spirit promotes unity among believers)