# Walking by the Spirit Galatians 5:16-18

THE BOOK OF

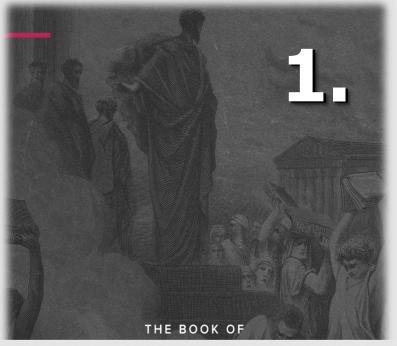
#### GALATIANS





#### Our Text

"16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law."



#### **GALATIANS**

## The Context explains the attempted rationalization.

"16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh...."

**Galatians 5:16-17** 

### "flesh" points to...

our humanity energized by this world

## "Spirit" points to...

our new life energized by the Holy Spirit

A GOSPEL OF GRACE

The Old Nature NON-CHRISTIAN	The New Nature  CHRISTIAN
our body of sin	freed from sin
of the flesh	of the Spirit
nothing good dwells inside	Spirit of Him dwells in us
sin is the master	enslaved to God
sold into bondage to sin	slaves of righteousness
death has control	eternal life is the reward
wretched	children of God
cannot please God	fellow heirs

### Paul's Explanation

If you are a Christian
you are a new creature with
new features

"However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Him."

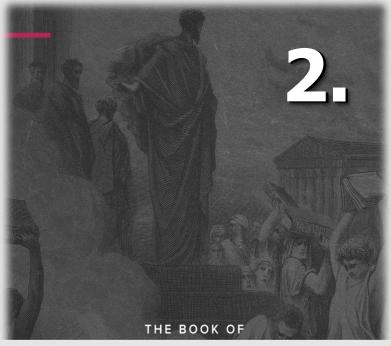
"Whoever is a believer in Christ is a new creation. The old way of living has disappeared. A new way of living has come into existence."

## Paul's Explanation

If you are a Christian the old nature has been crucified

"We know that our old sinful selves
were crucified with Christ
so that sin might lose its power in our lives.
We are no longer slaves to sin."

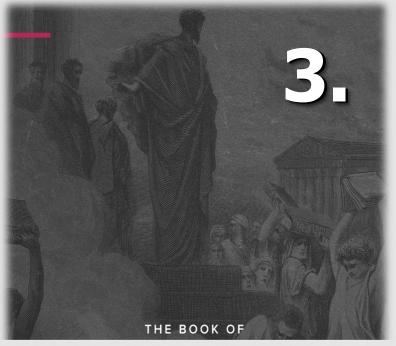
"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."



## The Command directs our steps.

"But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh."

Galatians 5:16



#### **GALATIANS**

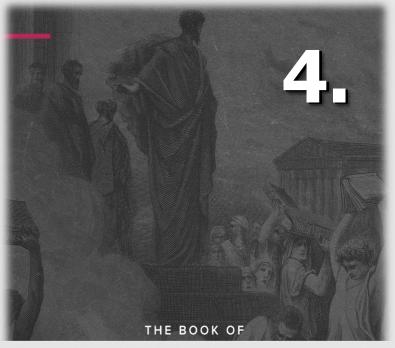
## The Conflict explains our experience.

"For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please."

Galatians 5:17

"Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption, the redemption of our bodies."

Our battle is primarily periential and not theological



#### **GALATIANS**

#### The Concern exemplifies God's Care.

"<sup>16</sup>But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.... <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law."

**Galatians 5:16, 18**