

The Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:13 – 6:10

by Don Falkos

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You have been called to live in freedom. But don't misuse that freedom to satisfy the desires of your bestial nature – those desires are in conflict with the Spirit. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." Let the Holy Spirit guide your lives.

The actions of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and lustful pleasures, idolatry and witchcraft, hatred, conflict, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, divisions and envy, drunkenness, orgies, and so on. Those who live this way will not inherit the kingdom of God.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. No law could possibly stand against such things.

If another believer is overcome by some sin, gently guide that person back onto the right path. But watch yourself – be careful not to fall into the same temptation. If you think you're too important to help someone else, you're only fooling yourself. You're not that important.

You are who you are. You've been gifted differently than others. So don't compare yourself with anyone else. Just do your part, carry your load, and be satisfied with a job well done.

You will reap what you sow. Sow to satisfy your animal nature, and you will reap destruction. Sow to satisfy the Spirit, and you will reap eternal life. Whenever an opportunity arises, do good to everyone in need, especially to fellow believers.