

CRUCIFY THE FLESH

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Galatians 5:16,17 — But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Romans 6:6 — We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

Watchman Nee — *“The believer needs to acknowledge that his flesh deserves nothing else than the curse of death. Let us pray that we may know what the flesh exactly is and how it must be crucified. What is lacking today is not a better living but a better dying!”*

Three Steps Towards Crucifying The Flesh

I. LIGHT UP THE DARK

Galatians 5:18-21 — But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Jeremiah 31:33 — I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Pat Sokoll — *“Don’t exchange the person of God as revealed in the Scriptures for lists about how to behave. Don’t form lists of “don’t touch this” and “don’t taste that” and “do this so God will be pleased.” Please God by walking with Him and letting Him train you.”*

Proverbs 20:27 — The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all his innermost parts.

Psalms 119:105 — Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Martin Luther — *“When the flesh begins to cut up the only remedy is to take the sword of the Spirit, the Word of salvation, and fight against the flesh. If you set the Word out of sight, you are helpless against the flesh. I know this to be a fact. have been assailed by many violent passions, but as soon as I took hold of some Scripture passage, my temptations left me. Without the Word I could not have helped myself against the flesh.”*

Luke 11:36 — If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light.”

Revelations 22:5 — And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Charles Spurgeon — *“The grace that does not change my life will not save my soul.”*

II. WALK IN VICTORY

Galatians 5:22-24 — But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

1 John 5:4 — For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

III. KEEP IN STEP

Hebrews 13:7 — Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Galatians 5:25-26 — If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Jerry Bridges — *“We could not take one step in the pursuit of holiness if God in His grace had not first delivered us from the dominion of sin and brought us into union with His risen Son. Salvation is by grace and sanctification is by grace.”*
