



## **One or the Other** **Galatians 5:24-26**

### **I. A CRUCIFIED FLESH (Verse 24)**

- Your old fleshly nature was crucified with Christ at the moment you were saved (*Rom.6:6; Gal.2:20*).
- As a believer you need not yield to the passions and lusts of your old nature.
- You are a totally new creation in Christ not subject to the pressures of the world (*Rom.7:5; Lk.22:15; Phil.1:23; Col.3:5; 1 Thess.4:5; Gal.6:14-15*).

### **II. A COMMUNAL SPIRIT (Verse 25)**

- You are born by and live by the power of the Holy Spirit (*John 3:6-8; 16:8; 1 Cor.12:13; Tit.3:5; Rom.4:12*).
- The life of the Spirit is one that leads to communion with other believers (*Gal.5:13-15*).

### **III. A COMPLIANT SOUL (Verse 26)**

- Your soul is the center of your personality and of your self interests.
- There are three dangers for a soulish Christian.
  1. Taking credit for anything that you accomplish: the credit is entirely the Lord's.
  2. Seeking to get one up on another believer: this can cause ill feelings and discouragement.
  3. Envyng another believer's blessings: thus seeking to deprive him of his blessings.
- Yield yourself to the control of the Holy Spirit and become compliant to His every direction.

## Application

### Your Flesh

- The power of your old nature of flesh was defeated on the cross.
- Know your position in Christ: dead, buried, raised, and seated with Him.
- Believe this to be true: you are dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.
- Yield your life to God as being alive to God and an instrument for His service.

### Your Spirit

- You were born again by faith in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and now you live your life by faith in that same power.
- Your spirit is now under the control of the Holy Spirit.
- Your God controlled spirit now directs your soul and ultimately your body and your interaction with the world.
- Your present walk of faith leads you into communion with other believers.

### Your soul

- The soulish Christian lives his life with his 'self' under his own control much as does the natural man.
- The spiritual Christian subjects his self interests to the control of the Holy Spirit. As such 1) he takes no credit for his actions, 2) he does not engage in one-upmanship, and 3) he does not belittle the talents and gifts that God has given another believer.

How does your life measure up to God's word in this passage?