

Tell-Tale Signs of the Flesh

Galatians 5:16-21

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- Computer woes last Sunday
- Our new “operating system”—the Spirit of God
 - Indwelling of the Spirit
 - “Filling” of the Spirit
 - “Walking” in the Spirit
- Our problem: Presence of the old “operating system”—the flesh

Tell-Tale Signs of the Flesh

A. General Observations: Paul’s list is...

1. Not CONCLUSIVE—5:21
2. CONTEXTUAL—tailor made for the Galatians. 5:15
3. COMMON—“*the works of the flesh are evident*”
4. CATEGORICAL—seem to fall into certain divisions

B. Specifics: The Four Categories. The works of the flesh involving....

1. **Sexual Sins** -- Galatians 5:19
 - a. Adultery
 - b. Fornication
 - c. Uncleaness
 - d. Lewdness
2. **Religious Sins**—Galatians 5:20
 - a. Idolatry
 - b. Sorcery
3. **Human Relations**—Galatians 5:20-21a
 - a. Hatred
 - b. Contentions
 - c. Jealousies
 - d. Outbursts of anger
 - e. Selfish ambition
 - f. Dissensions and heresies
 - g. Envy
 - h. Murder
4. **Typically Pagan**—Galatians 5:21a
 - a. Drunkenness
 - b. Revelries

C. WARNING: “Those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God”

1. Key word: *Practice*—habitual, continual action, not an occasional yielding to the flesh
2. The assessment of a person’s character in Scripture is always based on his common, habitual actions rather than on his occasional ones. Illustration: David
3. The “unrighteous” will not inherit the kingdom—1 Corinthians 6:9-10