

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Fall Term of 2024**

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CRUCIAL POINTS OF THE TRUTH IN PAUL'S EPISTLES—
GALATIANS**

Message Thirteen

Two Kinds of Walk by the Spirit

Scripture Reading: Gal. 5:16, 25

I. Because God is purposeful and seeks to reach His goal, He charges us to have two kinds of walk by the Spirit: the walk that builds up a proper daily living and the walk in line with the divine rules and principles to reach the goal established by God to fulfill His purpose—Gal. 5:16, 25:

- A. The Greek word for *walk* in verse 16, *peripateo*, denotes the daily, ordinary, regular walk; it means to move, to deport oneself, to act in ordinary daily life, implying a common, habitual daily walk—Rom. 6:4; 8:4; Phil. 3:17-18; Col. 2:6; cf. *Hymns*, #1048:
1. The first kind of walk by the Spirit is a walk in which we are one spirit with the Lord; in all that we say and do we need to exercise our spirit to be one spirit with the Lord in our experience—1 Cor. 2:9-13; 6:17; 1 Thes. 5:16-18.
 2. In the first kind of walk by the Spirit, we take the Spirit as the essence of our life (Gal. 5:16a); if we take the Spirit as our essence and crucify our flesh (v. 24), every aspect of our daily walk will be by the Spirit—*Hymns*, #493, stanza 5.
 3. If we would be the sons of God in reality and practicality, we must walk by the Spirit and not by the flesh—Gal. 3:26; 4:6; Rom. 8:14:
 - a. Because we are sons, God wants us to walk by the Spirit as His sons; if we would trust in the Spirit, we must stand on the ground of being God's sons, not on the ground of being God's creatures—Gal. 4:4-6.
 - b. Because we are God's sons and because the processed Triune God is working within us toward the goal of sonship, we should walk by the Spirit—3:26; 5:16.
 4. The flesh is the uttermost expression of the fallen tripartite man (Gen. 6:3), and the Spirit is the ultimate realization of the processed Triune God (John 7:39); because of Christ's redemption and the Spirit's work of regeneration, we who have received God's dispensing can walk by the Spirit, by the processed Triune God, instead of by the flesh, by our fallen being (Gal. 5:16, 24).
 5. The believers have the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit dwelling in their spirit, and they should live, walk, and have their being by this Spirit; if we live Christ in this way, we will spontaneously have the fruit of the Spirit—"love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control"—vv. 22-23; cf. Matt. 12:33-35.
- B. The Greek word for *walk* in Galatians 5:25, *stoicheo*, denotes an official walk, a walk to carry out a certain commission; it means to walk according to a certain rule—to walk in line, to march in military rank, to keep in step; and, thus, to walk in an orderly manner—6:16; Rom. 4:12; Phil. 3:16:
1. If we would have the second kind of walk by the Spirit—the walk for the fulfillment of God's purpose—we need to learn to walk by the Spirit as our way, rule, and principle; the second kind of walk by the Spirit is a walk to fulfill God's purpose and to reach the goal of our life on earth by taking the Spirit as our highway.

2. Galatians 6:15-16 says, “Neither is circumcision anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creation is what matters. And as many as walk by this rule, peace be upon them and mercy, even upon the Israel of God”:
 - a. The old creation is our old man in Adam (Eph. 4:22), our natural being by birth, without God’s life and the divine nature; the new creation is the new man in Christ, our inner being regenerated by the Spirit (John 3:6), having God’s life and the divine nature wrought into it (v. 36; 2 Pet. 1:4), with Christ as its constituent (Col. 3:10-11).
 - b. To “walk by this rule” (Gal. 6:16) is the second kind of walk by the Spirit (5:25); the rule by which we should walk is the rule of being a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17).
 - c. We need the second kind of walk so that we may be the real Israel of God (Rom. 9:6b; 2:28-29; Phil. 3:3), including the Gentile and Jewish believers in Christ, who are the true sons of Abraham (Gal. 3:7, 29), who are the household of the faith (6:10), and who are those in the new creation.
 - d. When we walk by “this rule,” the rule of the new creation, we not only express God’s image as sons of God but also execute God’s authority as Christ’s co-kings, who reign in life over Satan, sin, and death and are typified by Jacob, who was transformed into Israel, a prince of God and a victor—Rom. 5:17; Gen. 32:27-28.
 - e. Our destiny is not only to be sons of God but also to be kings reigning in the kingdom of God; we need the second kind of walk so that we may be the Israel of God, bearing God’s kingship, representing Him with His authority, and executing His governmental administration—Rev. 5:10; 11:15; 20:4; 22:5.

II. To fulfill God’s purpose, which is our purpose, we need the second kind of walk by the Spirit, but to carry out the second kind of walk, we need the first kind of walk; thus, the first kind of walk by the Spirit supports the second kind of walk, a walk with a direction toward a goal—Gal. 5:25:

- A. If we have only the first kind of walk by the Spirit but not the second, we may be regarded as “holy,” “spiritual,” or “victorious,” but we will actually be purposeless.
- B. A proper daily walk by the Spirit will qualify and equip us for the second walk by the Spirit, the walk that accomplishes God’s purpose; the first kind of walk by the Spirit builds up a proper daily living, and the second kind of walk is a walk in line with the divine rules and principles to reach the goal established by God; these two kinds of walk are organically and intrinsically related to each other—1 Cor. 9:24-27:
 1. If we are going to work the work of the Lord in the second kind of walk by the Spirit (15:58; 16:10), we must have the first kind of walk by the Spirit to save us from being subjective:
 - a. A subjective person insists on his judgment even after hearing something from the Lord, after the facts are unfolded, and after others have presented their side of the matter; the root cause of subjectivity is a self that has never been broken.
 - b. A subjective person cannot listen to others; when someone comes to a subjective person and tries to share a frustration or to unload a burden to him, he simply cannot understand what they are saying, because his opinions are an impregnable fortress, and his ideas are unchangeable.
 - c. A subjective person cannot receive any guidance from God because he is full of his own opinions, ways, and ideas; it takes a pliable and listening person with a listening ear to receive guidance from God—Psa. 32:8-9; Isa. 50:4-5.

- d. A subjective person has a lust for speaking; he has a lust to speak, and if he does not speak, he feels unhappy; he likes to impose his will upon others and dominate others with his ideas.
 - e. A faithful man speaks because he has to speak out of his commission from the Lord, but a subjective person likes to meddle with others' affairs, he likes others to listen to his words, he likes to control others in everything; he considers his methods to be the first and the best, and his ways the most perfect.
2. We must deal with our pride so that we may have the first kind of walk by the Spirit, enabling us to have the second kind of walk by the Spirit:
 - a. If we walk by the Spirit, we will not lord it over the members of the church, a strong sign of pride—1 Pet. 5:3.
 - b. In order to be good stewards of the grace of God to accomplish His purpose, we must realize that “God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble”—v. 5b.
 3. In Philippians 1:22 Paul says, “If I am to live in the flesh, if this to me is fruit for my work, then I do not know what I will choose”:
 - a. Paul’s use of the word *fruit* indicates that his work was actually his living; although Paul was living in prison, his living work was Christ lived out, magnified, and ministered to others; the fruit of Paul’s work was thus the transfusion of Christ, whom he magnified, into others.
 - b. In verses 24 and 25 Paul goes on to say, “But to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. And being confident of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of the faith”; *progress* refers to the growth in life, and *joy*, to the enjoyment of Christ.
 - c. If we live Christ for His magnification by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ according to the first kind of walk by the Spirit, we will become factors and channels of supply to enable the saints to grow in life and enjoy the Lord according to the second kind of walk by the Spirit.
 4. Because Paul enjoyed the Lord as grace in the first kind of walk by the Spirit, the Lord could entrust him with the stewardship of the grace of God in the second kind of walk by the Spirit; we need to follow Paul’s pattern of continually receiving the abundance of grace so that we can be good stewards of the varied grace of God—1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Cor. 12:7-9; Eph. 3:2; Rom. 5:17; 1 Pet. 4:10.
 5. If we have a walk by the Spirit in which we are one spirit with the Lord, we will habitually deny the self and be enabled to have a walk by the Spirit to fulfill God’s purpose and to reach the goal of our life on earth:
 - a. If we would have the second kind of walk by the Spirit, we should be careful not to do anything out of the self or by the self; we must walk by the Spirit and by the new creation—Matt. 16:24.
 - b. The self is the soul declaring independence from God; the Lord does not have regard for what we do; rather, He has regard for our dependence on Him—7:21-23; cf. Josh. 9:14.
 - c. Because Paul lived a life of habitually denying the self, he could declare that “we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake” (2 Cor. 4:5); Paul learned not to trust in himself but in God, who raises the dead (1:8-9).
 - d. When we habitually deny the self to have the second kind of walk by the Spirit, we are able to enter into the reality of the Body of Christ and into the blending life of the entire Body of Christ—1 Cor. 12:24-25; Rom. 16:1-24.