

## King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries  
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

## Fruit of the Spirit

## Lesson 3C

## The Holy Spirit

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Galatians 5:19-21 *Now the works of the flesh (old man) are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Many, even some who claim to be saved, say that the natural desires of the flesh are too powerful to be resisted and overcome. Some go so far as to claim they have a genetic predisposition which renders them helplessly addicted to such defiling practices. Yet according to the word of God, not one of these sins has sufficient power to force any born again believer into a situation where they are committing those sins (as we saw in Romans 6). A man will not commit adultery unless he chooses to. A woman will not engage in fornication unless she chooses to. Neither of them will get involved in internet pornography unless they decide to engage in such behavior.

If God knows one desires victory in these areas, and it will be evident as he or she yields to Him, the Holy Spirit will deliver that individual from these sins.

Verse 20 says, ***Idolatry, witchcraft...*** These are spiritual sins. There is no one in the world that can make an idolater out of a saved man/woman. There is nothing in the world that can make a saved woman become a witch.

For years my Pastor stood in front of an occult shop in downtown DeLand preaching the gospel. Not one time did the charms, amulets, crystals, beating drums, or the booklets on casting spells pull him into the store. Those things have no power over a Holy Spirit yielded Christian. He was never drawn away or enticed by them.

Professing Christians sin and blame the devil or the unclean spirits for their behavior. What a shameful thing to testify that Satan was a greater influence in one's life than the Holy Spirit. The word of God is clear that if a man practices idolatry, it is because he desired to serve his fallen flesh more than the Spirit of the Lord.

Galatians 5 continues, ***hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings...*** These are all sins that have to do with relationships. It is noteworthy that this is the longest section. Now let us consider this as those who believe what we read in Romans 6 and elsewhere. If we hate someone,

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it is not because of some action on their part but because we choose to hate them. The fruit of the Spirit is love, but we decline that option and select hatred instead.

Heresies are not false doctrines; they are divisions within a group. A heretic is someone in a church trying to rally a company of men and women to himself. A heresy is a clique, a faction, a division, or a split within the body. Similar iniquities are listed, such as variance, sedition, strife, etc. You will never be a part of such sins unless you want to be. The better option would be the peace produced in those who yield to the Spirit.

The catalog of mischief in Galatians 5 concludes with, ***drunkenness, revellings, and such like***. A man excuses his drunkenness by saying that he has an alcohol problem. No, he has a heart problem. Another says, "I have a drug problem." If every time those voices offered you a narcotic, you would call out to the Holy Spirit and ask for joy, He could produce it in you. If every time the desire of partying called out, you would run to the throne of grace and seek the Spirit's goodness, you could have life more abundantly. God will give us victory when He knows that such is our desire.

Now look on the other side. Galatians 5:22-23 tells us, ***But the fruit of the Spirit is love***, Instead of family-destroying adultery, the Holy Spirit offers the rich, stabilizing satisfaction of love. Instead of the degrading Darwinian-animal fornication, the Holy Spirit offers the sweet, permanent, hopeful life of love. God commits Himself to you for eternity. He never leaves you, never forsakes you, and He keeps His every promise. Love is superior to adultery. God does not say, "I love you," then defile you and leave you in the morning. He treats you with grace and charity. He is harmless and righteous. Love is far better than fornication.

In a world where the diseases spread by man's uncleanness ruin countless lives, God offers love. In societies where lasciviousness has wrought the destruction of the home, the family, the social order, and of hope itself, God offers love. Every time a man or woman calls out to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, God not only grants salvation, not only bestows everlasting life, but imparts His Holy Spirit to live within each of His newborn children. The man who never knew his father may now know love. That woman who was so shamefully harmed throughout her childhood may now know love. The Spirit lives within to make known to the child of God the love of God and to produce that love in each of His children.

***But the fruit of the Spirit is...***, joy, While the flesh is lured into the hopeless despair of idolatry, God offers joy. While the idol offers no response to fervent prayers, makes no move to aid its trusting worshiper, and speaks not a single word to comfort, God offers joy. While the natural man seeks to know hidden mysteries, find power beyond his own, or attempts to unravel the

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secrets of death and of the spirit world, God offers joy. When the spell is cast to no result, when the chant is repeated, but emptiness remains, when one enters the darkness and finds only more darkness, God offers joy. The flesh turns to idols because life is overwhelming. The fool seeks the wizard, the warlock, the necromancer, and other costumed fakers because he or she longs for help or answers. To all such God offers joy. The moment any desperate soul turns in faith to Jesus Christ, the Spirit of the God, who is associated with praise, rejoicing, singing, gladness, and light, comes to live within that soul. He not only brings joy upon His arrival but will also produce joy in the life of every believer.

In a world filled with overflowing hatred, ***the fruit of the Spirit is .., peace.*** Where politics, heads of state, churches, and homes seem to know only variance, ***the fruit of the Spirit is ..., peace.*** When the gun, the knife, the rock, or the fist are used to vent the wrath of man, ***the fruit of the Spirit is ..., peace.*** In a time when every hour of every day seems filled with striving for and striving against and striving with, ***the fruit of the Spirit is ..., peace.*** When it seems there is no organization, no assembly, no club, no team, no battalion, and seldom a church that is not troubled by seditions and heresies, ***the fruit of the Spirit is ..., longsuffering.*** In the midst of all the fighting, arguing, striving, debating, and animosity, ***the fruit of the Spirit is ..., gentleness and goodness.*** Where Adam (the old man) thinks he is wronged and must retaliate, the new man knows he is blessed and must give thanks. Where Adam continually sees himself a victim, the new man wonders how God could be so good to him. Where Adam sees one more outrage, feels one more insult, or covets the life and possessions of some other person, the new man counts his many blessings and sings joyous songs of praise from a contented heart.

Even a casual glance would tell us the world is racing toward its destruction. ***The fruit of the Spirit is ... faith.*** Each day someone mistreats us in word or deed. ***The fruit of the Spirit is...meekness.*** Temptations within, temptations without, the eyes seeing, the ear hearing, the heart longing, the mind imagining, the devil alluring, all make it would seem impossible to live above the distractions and triumph through continual trials. ***The fruit of the Spirit is... temperance.*** Child of God, every moment of every day we live in between saved and heaven, we have a present world to deal with. If we do so under the control of the flesh, we will live just like we had never been saved. If we choose to face this evil world under the control of the Holy Spirit, we can live like Jesus Christ would have us to live. The issue is not the world but our heart.

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Let's compare these two verses.

Galatians 5:18 ***But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.***

Galatians 5:23 ***Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.***

Adam requires hundreds of commandments against sexual sins and dozens of illustrations in the Bible as to the harmful effects of sexual sins in an attempt to force him to keep from doing that which will hurt himself and others. In most cases, all of this information from a God of love goes unheeded. When the Holy Spirit of God has control of a Christian's life, he will love his neighbor as himself. He will not need a single commandment or warning against adultery or hatred, for he would never harm the home of another. The children of God led by the Spirit need no law against variance or heresy, for they would not think of doing damage to a church where the Lord's people gather to worship the Savior. The Holy Spirit sets us free to walk in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Adam has to have restraints. Adam has to be shackled and bound because he cannot be controlled. Jesus Christ came to give us liberty. If longsuffering is the order of the day, and meekness is reigning in my heart, I do not need a list of rules and commandments telling me how to treat you. The Holy Spirit will produce living fruit in each of God's children, which could never grow from rules and restrictions.

Notes

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Note: (\*) An asterisk indicates must include scripture with your answers.

1. What causes a man/woman to become an alcoholic?
2. What kind of sins are spiritual sins?
3. Do charms, crystals, amulets and spells have any supernatural powers to a Christian? Why? \*
4. Can a Christian be devil possessed? Why? \*
5. When will a born again child of God appear as a devil possessed person? \*
6. What are the sins that have to do with relationships?
7. Why does no one have a predisposition of a sin?
8. What is the definition of heresy?
9. Can someone cast a spell on a born again Christian? \*

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10. What is the difference between the world's definition of love and God's definition?
11. What does the Lord Jesus Christ give out freely when a man or woman calls out to Him for salvation?
12. Why does the flesh turn to idols?
13. Why does the new man not require commandments to stay pure?
14. If longsuffering is the order of the day, and meekness is reigning in my heart, what does the born again Christian not need in his/her life?

**True/false**

- Being under the law is living under the bondage of commandments.
- Some people inherit alcoholism from their parents.
- The devil can force a born again Christian to sin.
- You sin against God because you want too.

**Scripture memorization**

1 John 4:4; Psalm 119:11; Galatians 5:18; 1 John 4:4

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

any questions?