

Walking in the Spirit or the Flesh — Structure of Galatians 5:13–6:5

A. The Law of Love

13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but **through love serve one another**.
14 For all the **law** is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "**You shall love your neighbour as yourself**"

B. The opposite to the law of love

15 but if you **bite and devour one another** beware lest you be **consumed by one another**

C. Walk in the Spirit

16 I say then: **Walk in the Spirit** and you shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.

D. War with the desires of the flesh

17 For the **flesh lusts** against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are **contrary to one another** so that you do not do the things that you wish

E. The law does not operate in the realm of the Spirit

18. But if you are led by the **Spirit**, you are **not under the law**.

F. The works of the flesh and the Spirit

19-21. Now **the works of the flesh** are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

F'. The works of the flesh and the Spirit

22-23a. But **the fruit of the Spirit** is: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

E'. The law does not operate in the realm of the Spirit

23b. Against **such** there is **no law**.

D'. War with the desires of the flesh

24 And those who are Christ's have **crucified the flesh** with its **lusts and desires**.

C'. Walk in the Spirit

25 If we **live in the Spirit**, let us also **walk in the Spirit**.

B'. The opposite to the law of love

26 Let us not become conceited, **provoking one another** **envying one another**

A'. The Law of Love

6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual **restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted**.
6:2 **Bear one another's burdens** and so **fulfill the law of Christ**.
[6:3-5 continues this theme]