

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

A. The Law of Love

13 For you, brothers and sisters were called to freedom, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but **through love serve one another**.

14 For the whole law is summed up in one command: **"You must love your neighbor as yourself."**

B. The opposite to the law of love

15 But if you continually **bite and devour one another**, beware that you are not **consumed by one another**.

C. Walk in the Spirit

16 I say then, **walk in the Spirit**, and you will not carry out the desires of the flesh.

D. War with the desires of the flesh

17 For the **flesh's desires** are against the Spirit, and the **Spirit's desires** are against the flesh, for they are **opposed to each other**, so that you do not do the things you want to do.

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 obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, depravity, idolatry, sorcery, acts of hate, discord, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalry, dissensions, factions, envy, murder, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, 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, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control;.

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

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

D'. War with the desires of the flesh

24 Now those who belong to Christ have **crucified the flesh** with its **passions 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

6:1-2 Brothers and sisters, if anyone is caught in some sin, you who are spiritual **restore the person in a spirit of gentleness**.

Pay attention to yourself, so you are not also tempted.

Carry one another's burdens, and so **fulfill the law of Christ**.

[6:3-5 continues this theme]