

THE BATTLE WITHIN - OUR TWO NATURES

Introduction: Why do we do things we know we should not do as Christians?

I. Genesis 2:7 - Discuss God creating the first human and the attributes He gave to Adam and what Adam lost when he sinned and what remained (O.S.N.) - human nature and the soul (mind).

II. Romans 7:6 - 25 - Discuss the battle Paul was describing that was taking place within his mind and heart. The same battle every Christian has every waking moment.

III. Galatians 5:16 - 21: The Works of the Flesh

1. Adultery 2. Fornication 3. Uncleaness 4. Lasciviousness (vulgar) 5. Idolatry
6. Witchcraft 7. Hatred 8. Variance 9. Emulations 10. Wrath 11. Strife 12. Seditions
13. Heresies 14. Envyings 15. Murders 16. Drunkenness 17. Revelings 18. Lying
19. Theft 20. Gossip 21. Bitterness 22. Bad language 23. Etc.

IV. Galatians 5:22 - 23: The Fruit (Works) of the Spirit

1. Love 2. Joy 3. Peace 4. Longsuffering 5. Gentleness 6. Goodness 7. Faith
8. Meekness 9. Temperance 10. Forgiveness 11. Etc.

V. Colosians 3:1-17 Ephesians 4:22: What the Christian is to put aside or put off (old man):

1. Anger 2. Wrath 3. Malice 4. Blasphemy 5. Filthy Communications 6. Lying
7. Fornication 8. Uncleaness 9. Covetousness 10. Evil Desires 11. Wrong Affections

VI. Ephesians 4:24: What the Christian is to put on (the New Man): A Heart of:

1. Mercy 2. Kindness 3. Humbleness 4. Kindness 5. Meekness 6. Long Suffering
7. Forbearance 8. Forgiveness 9. Love (above all) 10. Peace of God 11. Word of Christ
12. Worship 13. Works giving Christ the honor and glory.

APPLICATION:

1. Non Christians do not have the battle within that a Christian has for a non Christian has but one nature and that is the human nature, or the Old Sin Nature. Their consciences do not have to make any choices - they "do what comes naturally..."
2. Christians who are living in God's will are constantly battling as to which nature they will follow - their old human nature (old sin nature) or their new nature, their spiritual nature.
3. Which nature do you listen to and follow the most? Your soul (mind) makes the choice..either it is your old human nature (do what comes naturally) or your new nature given to you at salvation.