

# Works of the Flesh / Fruit of the Spirit

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Part 13

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-26

Scripture Reading: Romans 16:17-20

INTRO:

Well we are almost out of verse 20 of Galatians chapter 5, two more to go, and we will be past this verse. And if you remember from the last message, I noted in the introduction that these last three sins of verse 20, the sins of selfish ambitions, dissensions, and heresies, could all be grouped together into one category, not that they are all the same or are similar in their makeup, but that they follow as a formula from one to another. From selfish ambitions can develop dissensions and from dissensions can come heresies. And one thing that I find interesting is that even though we have come to number 12 in Paul's list of sins, this sin of dissension is actually, in one sense, the second sin of both man and Satan.

L. DISSENSIONS

Now that may be something new to you, but if we look at the initial sins of both man and the devil, and ask you what was that first initial sin of Satan? Pride.

Pride is the first sin that entered creation and it entered into the mind of Lucifer, that highest angel in the angelic realm. And it was pride in the form of selfish ambition that corrupted his ways in the beginning.

‘I will exalt my throne above the stars of God, I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High’ were the words of Lucifer.

And it is from this corruption, this pride that drove Satan to come into the Garden of Eden, and deceive man in that perfect place of paradise. And it is through deception that man fell into that first and original sin of what... disobedience towards God. That original sin that has condemned all of mankind from that time onward.

And even though man and the devil’s original sins are different, pride for the devil, disobedience towards God in man, it is the sin of dissensions that followed both of them. And let me explain this thinking as we look at its definition.

The Greek word Paul uses here is the word dichostasia *dee-khos-tas-ee'-ah* Strong's number 1370 and the Strong's dictionary defines the word as;

Disunion, division and sedition.

It is a word that is derived from two words, the first the word is *dis dece* which means twice or again, and it's original root of this word comes from the word *duo doo'-o*, a word which we should all recognize, anyone want to guess what the word *duo doo'-o* means... you've all heard it and used it... it really means two. When you have two people performing some kind of musical we would say it's a duo, or they are performing a duet. This is the first word in dichostasia *dee-khos-tas-ee'-ah*.

The second word is the word stasis *stas'-is* Strong's 4714, and the Online Bible Greek Lexicon defines the word as;

A standing, a station or state

And what you end up with is a word that means a second standing, or two positions, which is precisely what the second sin of man and of Satan did in their relationship with God.

With the devil, his pride caused him to then rebel against God to create a division, a second state between the fallen angels and their creator. A sin that that entailed the fall of third of the angelic realm as interpreted by some scriptures.

With man, this sin of dissension, of division, of creating a second standing with God, one apart from God because of sin, is.

When man disobeyed God in the garden and ate of that forbidden fruit and he immediately chooses a path of self, of one that was not from God, he created for himself a second standing or a second state of position, one that was separated from God by sin. And it is this sin that separated him from God as he chose for himself his own means, beginning with sewing fig leaves as coverings, and hiding himself from God, in avoiding God as He walked in the garden, man chose his own path in this second standing apart from God because of his sin.

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Because how many of you remember seeing a picture similar to something like this somewhere in the past?

It is the classic depiction of what man's sin has done to his relationship with God; our sin has separated us from God and because of this sin we are in a state that is no longer in the presence or

fellowship or right standing with God. And it has created a second standing for himself, one that is apart from God.

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And from that first separation from God, it has left man wondering, “how do I get back in the right standing with God”, “how do I make things right by my own means”,

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This is exactly the first thing Adam and Eve did in the garden, they hid, and then covered themselves with fig leaves, to hide their shame, but their own actions and attempts still separated them from God because of their original sin.

You see, we can't do it by ourselves, there is nothing we can do to fix that broken relationship with God by our own means. It is our sin that has divided us from God.

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Man has tried to get back to God, and all religions in the world are in one sense or another attempts in trying to get back into a right relationship with God, back too God, to overcome this division that has been created by mans sin.

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But none of man's attempts will work. Man by himself never understands that the one thing that has separate us from God is our sin, this dissensions, this second standing apart from God that man has created because of his sin, can only be corrected in one way, and that one and only way back to God is...

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Through the blood of Jesus Christ. The one who has paid for our sins and has bridged the gap of our broken state with God and did so with His life on the cross.

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It is the gift of God and that only through repentance of our sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ can we again be restored to our relationship with our God. It is only through the blood of Christ who covers our sins that we can find our way back to our creator and come into a right standing with our Lord.

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See this dissension or this division is at the core of man's sin, man is separated from God because of his original sin and involvement in sin.

It is sin that created these two standings that exists between man and God.

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Now if we go back to our word dissensions as a sin of the flesh in Galatians chapter 5, Vine's dictionary describes the word as a 'standing apart', one part separated from another in a fashion that is not right but sinful.

And one of the difficulties of looking at or understanding this word in the context here in Galatians is that it is not used in a sentence that gives us any context. Here in Galatians it does not properly give the reader any context to the word outside from the definitions and dictionaries we have looked at.

All it gives from this context is it being a work of the flesh, of it being evident to others, and those who practice such thing will not inherit the kingdom of God and none of the details of what the sin really is.

So to give us a better understanding of this word we will look at the two other places where it is used in the New Testament, and then a couple of examples from the Old Testament, to show us how this word is used in the scriptures. The first one is in the final chapter of

Romans, the scripture that was read for us earlier, and it is a warning and command from Paul, in Romans chapter 16 verses 17 and 18, where it says;

*17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions (this is the word) and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.*

*18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.*

Here in verse 17 the word is translated as divisions; And this is what Paul is portraying in this verse, a division or splitting of people because of a difference, but note the part where he says that these are divisions and offenses that are...

*contrary to the doctrine which you learned,*

It is divisions that has been created ‘contrary’ to the doctrines which they had learned from Paul, from the apostles, and from Christ. That is the issue he is addressing here, it is the division from the things Paul had originally taught which are now being opposed by certain people.



Warren Wiersbe writes in his commentary regarding this verse;

Not everyone was working with Paul for the spreading of the Gospel. There were some who, for selfish reasons, were dividing the churches by teaching false doctrine. These people were probably the same Judaizers who had given Paul trouble in other churches. Instead of preaching the truth, these men spread their own religious propaganda, using deceit and clever speeches.

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And note what Paul reveals to us in verse 18 as being the main reason for their division, he says;

*18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.*

It is here where Paul notes that this division is entirely for selfish gain and says we are to avoid such people, people who cause such divisions and offences and do not to serve our Lord Jesus Christ. Rather as the verse says; serve ‘their own belly’; this is part of the ‘selfish ambitions’ we noted in the previous message.

To cause divisions for your own gain is the sin I believe Paul is talking about, both here in Romans and in Galatians. That not only is the selfish ambitions a sin, putting self above everything else, as we saw last time but then to continue with actions that divide the people or 'the church' to fulfill that ambition. This is dissensions.

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But one thing we must note is that not all division are bad division or sinful. Paul himself notes in these very same verses that we are to mark and avoid such people who cause divisions contrary to the doctrines we have learned, we are to make a division from them.

You see it is the purpose behind a division that makes it a sin or not. If is a division for selfish gain, that would be bad and sin. If it is for spiritual safety, that would be good. Because that is what Paul meant in these verses, where we are to 'avoid' those who cause divisions contrary to scripture, in order to keep us safe, to keep us in the right way.

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Jesus himself spoke the words of Luke 12:51 saying;

*"Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division.*

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And Paul commands us in 2 Timothy 2:15 saying;

*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

Now I will note that the words divide and dividing are not the original word we find here in Galatians or Romans chapter 16 but it shows us that not all division is wrong, but that if it is the act of dissensions or seditions from selfish motive then it is sin.

The second place where this word is found, is in 1 Corinthians 3 verse 3 and I will read verse 1 to 3 for us where it says;

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*1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ.*

*2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;*

*3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?*

Paul's rebuke is centered around the immaturity of new believers, Paul says in verse 1 'I could not speak to you as spiritual people but as to carnal, 'as babes in Christ.'" That he had to feed them with the 'milk' of God's word and not the 'solid food' because they were and are still not able to receive it.

And why is this... because they are still carnal, or fleshly, living and being driven by the flesh, for in verse 3 he says 'for you are still carnal' saying that they are still in this immature fleshly driven mindset of their faith.

For where there is envy and strife and divisions which is our word here today.

Paul says are you not carnal, fleshly, living for self and selfish means in behaving like mere men, worldly men, like unsaved men living only for self and causing divisions to do so?

This is why Paul calls this dichostasia *dee-khos-tas-ee'-ah* a work of the flesh; it is the division of people or of the word for selfish gains and the glory of self and not for God.

This is something Peter had to defend and explain in his second letter in chapter 1 verse 16 saying;

*For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.*

It was the truth of Christ which Peter and the apostles were preaching to the people in regard to the power and coming of Jesus, it was not something they conjured up for selfish gain, Peter also warns us in the next chapter, chapter 2 in verse 1 to 3 by saying;

*But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction.*

*2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.*

*3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber.*

A similar rebuke comes from Jude to those who already let such false teachers come into the church as he says in the third and fourth verse of his letter saying;

*Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.*

*4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.*

And Paul again in the book of Titus in chapter 1 verses 10 and 11 saying;

*10 For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,*

*11 whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.*

And we will expand more on these scriptures next time but for now all of these scriptures have one thing in common,

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and that is the exposing of people who create division for selfish gain or selfish ambitions.

People who divide people or the bible and even churches, only to serve their own belly as immature Christians as those who simply live for the flesh.

Not only with selfish ambitions as we have looked at previously, that has already taken place but a self-seeking spirit which now divides others for that personal gain and it is this sin that Paul addresses in these verses of Galatians chapter 5.

If we now go to the Old Testament turn in your bibles to Numbers chapter 12, and I will read the whole chapter, only 16 verses, and it gives us a historical biblical account of such dissensions or seditions fully at work in some of God's closest people in Israel, Numbers chapter 12 starting in verse 1;

*Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.*

*2 So they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it.*

*3 (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)*

4 ¶ Suddenly the LORD said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!" So the three came out.

5 Then the LORD came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward.

6 Then He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.

7 Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.

8 I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?"

9 So the anger of the LORD was aroused against them, and He departed.

10 ¶ And when the cloud departed from above the tabernacle, suddenly Miriam became leprous, as white as snow. Then Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there she was, a leper.



*11 So Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord! Please do not lay this sin on us, in which we have done foolishly and in which we have sinned."*

What was the sin of Aaron and Miriam? Is it not a mixture of bad jealousy that moved them to selfish ambition which then began to lead them to the divisions of the leadership.

Miriam and Aaron, the older siblings of Moses were right next to Moses in all the things God did through them, but there was a seed, an element of division for self or glory for self that came into the hearts of Aaron and Miriam for their own selfish reasons.

If you note verse 2 they say; "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" These are the divisive words of these siblings, in wanting of have some of their own glory that they believed Moses was enjoying or hogging for himself. But it was all wrong; there was nothing good in their actions or motives. All their actions really revealed was their selfish desire for division in the leadership and glory in what they thought was their right to have.

Verse 12 Aaron still speaking;

*12 "Please do not let her be as one dead, whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother's womb!"*

*13 So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "Please heal her, O God, I pray!"*

*14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not be shamed seven days? Let her be shut out of the camp seven days, and afterward she may be received again."*

*15 So Miriam was shut out of the camp seven days, and the people did not journey till Miriam was brought in again.*

*16 And afterward the people moved from Hazeroth and camped in the Wilderness of Paran.*

And the moral of the story we could say, is this, even those who walked in the presence of God, work in His ministry, who were at work for God's purpose among His people, even such people are not immune to such things as selfish ambitions that lead to dissensions or seditions in their life. I am not immune to this and neither is anyone else of the beginning of them are found in their heart.

Another example would be only a couple of chapters over in Numbers chapter 16 in the account of Korah's rebellion, and his controversy with Aaron and Moses as leaders of the people, if you flip over a couple of pages I'll start reading from verse 1 where it says;

*Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men;*

*2 and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown.*

Now note here that these are not just a band of disgruntled outsiders or people who were on the fringe of their society, no it says these were leaders, representatives of the people men of renown, these were already men of stature and leadership within the people. Verse 3;

*3 They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"*

Doesn't that sound familiar? Isn't this the same combination of jealousy, selfishness, sinful desires that Miriam and Aaron displayed only a few chapters earlier, and it is not this same sin is leading Korah and his companions to act out in this same way, to allow some of these inward sins to move them in outward sinful actions. In verses 4 and 5 it reads;

*4 So when Moses heard it, he fell on his face;*

*5 and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying,  
"Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His and who is holy, and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.*

And most of us know how the rest of the account transpires, but if we go down to verse 28 it reads;

*And Moses said: "By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will.*

*29 "If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me.*

*30 "But if the LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs*

*to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD."*

*31 Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them,*

*32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods.*

*33 So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.*

*34 Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!"*

*35 And a fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.*

It is a very vivid account of how the Lord views those who divide for selfish gain.

It was a division for self as Korah and his companions brought into question the position of Aaron as priest and Moses as prophet according to what Moses says in verse 9 and 10;

*"Is it a small thing to you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the work of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to serve them;*

*10 "and that He has brought you near to Himself, you and all your brethren, the sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking the priesthood also?"*

These are just 2 examples of dissensions in the Old Testament, the sin in creating division for selfish fulfillment or advancement, the same way Paul describes it in the New Testament, a carnal, selfish mind set of people who divide only to serve their own selfish desires.

And if we fast forward not Old Testament our present day as Warren Wiersbe also says in his commentary, when we see in the many false doctrines and cults we have in our world. Those who believe that ‘they’ have the truth of God’s word in their doctrine and the proper interpretation of salvation where he says;

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We have the same problem today, and Christians must beware of false teachers. They come to your front door with magazines, books, and tapes, trying to convince you that they are teaching the truth.

Paul gives two instructions: mark them (*which means to identify them*), and avoid them.

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Because such divide the word of God wrongfully in order to divide you from the truth we read of in the bible.

They bring in to question of who Jesus really is, the true way of salvation, and what the scriptures really say about God.

Foundational truths that cannot be messed with or tampered with as a follower of the faith. You cannot divide these truths from the bible without destroying the truth of God's word.

And yet they continue to exercise this division for their own gain just as Paul and Peter and Jude all warn us about these people and their true intent of their ways.

And that is only with the cults on the outside, I think one of the worst of it is when we see such things within church, within the body of believers on the inside.

When it is God's people who use this tactic of dissensions within the body of Christ for their own selfish gains or advantages, divisions for selfish ambitions, or pleasures that this becomes an extremely wicked sin.

Remember, what Paul is getting at in Galatians is a reference to those who

*... who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned... For... such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.*

When it is self serving or selfish ambitions that is behind such divisions it is sin and from the flesh as Paul's words in Corinthians says;

*for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?*

And I want to give you an example of one in where we are today, and for that look at mark chapter 10 verses 11 and 12. A selfish ambitious sin that leads to division.

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Mark 10:11 and 12 say;

*So He said to them, (that is Jesus) "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her.*

*12 "And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."*

Now most of you already know where I stand on this issue, and I think all of you do the same.

But here before us we have a horrible sin that is overtaking our churches, even though they are very plain verses of scripture, how many of you know of people who use all kinds of exception clauses or fancy scripture interpretations to allow this sin in their lives?

We all know some of them, and do they rightly divide the word of God in coming to their conclusions... I don't think so, but what they do is they cause divisions in the word of God to support their views, cutting out and wrongfully dividing the words of God, and then cause divisions in other people to promote and satisfy their own desires or the desires of others close to them to allow them to indulge in this sinful act of adultery.

If we take the normal literal interpretation of the verses, it is a sin for any man or any woman to divorce their spouse and marry another.

It is very plain, very straightforward, but I ask you, what is happening in churches all over North America?

This problem of divorce and remarriage in the church is rampant isn't it?

There is hardly a church, a family that is not affected by this sin. And why is that? Why has this sin being allowed to enter into so many churches in our land? Because of proper normal literal bible interpretation? No, because of the ultimate authority of the bible? No. These verses are about as plain and clear as it gets.

So why is divorce and remarriage so rampant in our churches? Why is there so many people falling for this sin? Well listen...

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In 2023 Forbes media states that 75% of people staid that it was because of a 'lack of commitment' in the other person.

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60% said it was because of infidelity.

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And 58% said it was also because of too much conflict. Well if you already have a problem with the first 2, the conflict will almost certainly be there too. Now note these percentages are not based out of a 100% scale but of multiple overlapping factors of each case.

But if we look at the first one, what is lack of commitment? What is the motive or reason for a lack of commitment in the other person in marriage? Is it apathy? The 'I don't care for the other person any more', or the 'I don't have feelings for the other person anymore'.

Is it not a selfish motive that usually drives this mentality, that I'm not interested in this person anymore and I want someone else, a different spouse, it's someone else that I want to be with, a selfish ambition that has no regard for other around me but only to fulfill my own wants and wishes? Isn't that the sin of the previous message? Listen 75% of people stated it was because of a lack of commitment.

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Such people with such selfish ambition then wrongfully divide what the word of God really says about divorce and remarriage, and why... in order to portray what they want the word of God to mean and say so that they can live in their own selfish desires regardless of what God's word really says.

But then it doesn't stop there, they then divide the people to find more support in this second opinion of God's word, and what support are they looking for... That what they have come to believe about divorce and remarriage is right?

People wrongly divide the word of God to fit their selfish ambitions of them wanting a new and different wife, or to excuse someone else's decision in living in that sinful situation. And then divide the people to find others to support them in their sin .

And is their aim to glorify God, to exalt the standard of His word... no it is not... it is to gratify their own bellies as Paul says in Romans.

To fulfill their carnal spiritually immature hearts, with the fleshly desires they have let into their soul through selfish ambitions, which then lead to dissensions, divisions within the rest of the body of Christ and Gods word, to go their own way in sin. And it destroys everything in its path.

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The same way this couple did it. And brought about a sin and division that is still in our world today.

If Adam and Eve could say one thing to us today what do you think they would say... listen to God, listen to God and don't, DON'T listen to the devil and his lies, but listen to God.

Because this is just one area of problem within the church. There are a whole host of others that are already within the churches and whole host of others that are coming.

And let me ask you, how do they come? how do they all begin to come in... by someone's selfish ambitions, that disregard, not only for other people but a disregard for God Himself and His Word. And then use that motivation to create divisions or as Paul says dissensions for selfish gain and pleasures of self... and oh the evils that come from such evil motives, and we have only looked at one of them that is plaguing God's people.

And so to wrap this up for something for your own life, last time we looked at selfish ambitions, and as Vine's dictionary said

It comes to denote the attitude of self-seekers... who demean themselves for gain.

...where it refers to the "despicable nature" of those who do not obey the truth but seek immediate gain.

The... “base self-seeking,” the “baseness” that cannot shift its gaze to higher things.

And I would ask you this morning, is the word of God your ultimate standard in life, and I don't mean in that glossed over love for the bible, I mean is the word your ultimate standard for your life! At all cost and by all means it has and is the ultimate authority and is standard of all you consist of?

Because if it is not, this little thing of selfish ambitions within you will grow into this things Paul calls dissensions. And when it does grow, you will begin to ‘see the bible differently’ it will become more of a ‘guide to life’, a mere comfort with some of the more pleasing passages, and you will find yourself take on the view of saying to such passages as Mark 10:11 and 12, ‘well that’s what it says... but that’s not really what it means’.

We have heard this haven't we?

And if you allow it to grow you will begin to create that division that dissension within your congregation, within other people, within your family, and you create a point of view purely to cater to your selfish gains and desires. And as we will cover next time, you will begin to endorse and promote and teach the next sin Paul calls heresies.

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But in looking at your own heart here this morning, what side of the divide are you standing on? Is it the side that stands on truth and God's Word? On the sole sufficiency of the bible? Standing on what the word really says?

Or are you leaning towards what feels better. Going to the side of experiences and things that feel more pleasing to the self and flesh? That maybe, the bible is possible just a good guide book and not so much the 'ultimate authority' for my life.

And a good test for you is to ask yourself;

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Where do I stand on the issue of divorce and remarriage?

Where do I stand on the issue of alcohol?

Where do I stand on the issue of smoking?

Of adultery, Of fornication, Of uncleanness, Of lewdness Of idolatry,  
Of sorcery, Where do I stand on SIN?

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On which side am I making my stand, is it on the side of God's word and truth?

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Or am I on the side of personal experiences and feelings in trying to make my own way back to God, with making my own ways and ideas with my own selfish ambitions and dissensions as being acceptable to God?

And so as I conclude, we have talked about this sin of dissensions, of divisions, and how it started with Adam and Eve in the Garden. When they initially separated themselves from God through disobedience, and then tried to go their own way in hiding and making coverings of fig leaves for themselves. And it is this second stand that is still the sin of man today, that it is the division in fulfilling the self, in doing things my way, for my gain, and my selfish ambitions and not casting my gaze unto higher things which is God, and His higher standard which is the bible.

It is the sin that is fueled by the previous one called selfish ambitions and when fueled, it will transition into the next one called heresies.

Well may the Lord again give us wisdom in dealing with these sins.



