

January 8, 2012  
*The Bridge Bible Fellowship*  
Pastor Paul S. Brown  
Galatians 5:22

“Walking By The Spirit, Part Seven”

- I. The Gospel of Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in the Finished Work of Christ Alone Defended (1:1-2:21)
- II. The Gospel of Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in the Finished Work of Christ Alone Explained (3:1-4:31)
- III. The Gospel of Grace Alone Through Faith Alone in the Finished Work of Christ Alone Applied (5:1-6:18)
  - A. Position of Liberty: Stand Fast (5:1-12)
  - B. Practice of Liberty: Love One Another (5:13-15)
  - C. Power for Liberty: Walk in (by) the Spirit (5:16-26)
    1. Conflict between the Spirit and the Flesh (5:16-18)
    2. Works (deeds) of the Flesh (5:19-21)
    3. Fruit of the Spirit (5:22-26)
      - a. Pomology – the scientific study and cultivation of fruit
      - b. Product – v. 22-23
      - c. Practice – v. 24-25
      - d. Problem – v. 26
      - e. Particulars – v. 22-23
        - 1) Love (agape)
        - 2) Joy (chara)**
          - a) The Scriptural Definition
            - i. Not dependent on \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet. 1:6; 2 Cor. 6:10)
            - ii. Cannot be explained in \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet. 1:8)
            - iii. Is a characteristic of \_\_\_\_\_ (Zeph. 3:17)
          - b) The Sorrowful Contrast – \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 Kings 19; Ps. 42-43; Prov. 23:7; Phil. 4:8; 1 Thess. 5:18; Eph. 5:20; Rom. 5:1-5)
          - c) The Supreme Example (Heb. 12:2)
          - d) The Specific Commands (1 Thess. 5:16; Phil. 4:4)
          - e) The Spiritual Impact (Neh. 8:10; Jn. 15:11; Rom. 14:17; 1 Thess. 1:6; Ps. 118:24)
        - 3) Peace (Greek: eirēnē)**
          - a) The Scriptural Definition: a deep-settled confidence that Almighty God is in control of the details of our lives even in the midst of conflicts and problems. Related to Old Testament Hebrew word shalom. (Is. 26:3; 2 Chron. 20; Job 13:15)
          - b) The Sinful Contrast – Anxiety - Greek: merimnao = “a divided mind” – (Mt. 6:19-34 cf. Phil. 4:19; Ps. 37:4; 1 Tim. 6:8; 1 Pet. 5:6-7; Phil. 4:6-8)
          - c) The Supreme Example (Mt. 26:39)

d) The Specific Commands (Phil. 4:6-7; Eph. 4:3; Mt. 5:9)

e) The Spiritual Impact (Phil. 4:9; Rom. 5:1-5; Jn. 14:27; 16:33; Rom. 14:17)

Discussion Questions:

1. Share a story of the Holy Spirit producing love in your life in recent weeks? How specifically did this demonstrate value and worth in the object loved? What impact did this have on others?
2. How is biblical joy different from happiness? How can one be truly joyful when circumstances appear to be horrible? (See 2 Cor. 4)
3. Do you ever struggle with depression? Why is it often difficult for Christians to admit this? What are some possible causes of depression? What are some biblical cures?
4. What does it mean to “rejoice always”? How does our belief in the sovereignty of God influence this?
5. How would a deeper understanding of eschatology (study of the end times) help us have greater joy? What promises has God made about our future if we know Jesus as Lord and Savior? (find verses to support your answers)
6. What impact would it have on those around you if you were rejoicing always?
7. Read the definition of peace on your outline. How deeply settled is your confidence in God’s sovereignty? Would it continue to be that way if a doctor said you had a terminal disease? If you lost your job? If not, why not?
8. Look up the Hebrew word “shalom.” What other synonyms are there for this word? Does your relationship with Jesus impact EVERY area of your life? Is there a “wholeness” about you because of Christ? Read Is. 26:3. It says there that God will keep you in shalom shalom (double shalom – “perfect peace”) if you do what?
9. Why is anxiety the opposite of peace? What are the characteristics of anxiety? Why does God repeatedly command us to stop being anxious (or fearful) in the Bible? Why are we prone to be anxious and fearful? Read Mt. 6:25-34. What can we do to overcome anxiety and fear?
10. Read Phil. 4:6-9. What are we commanded to do to overcome anxiety? What are the specifics? What are the differences between prayer, supplication, and thanksgiving? After God gives us His peace what does v. 8 tell us to do? Why is this so important? According to v. 9, what does God promise if we do what He says in this passage? What is the difference between experiencing the “peace of God” (v. 7) and the “God of peace” (v. 9)?
11. Read Rom. 5:1-5. How are peace and joy (“exult”) connected in this passage? How are both of those connected to a deep understanding of being justified entirely by grace alone through faith alone in the finished work of Jesus Christ alone?

[Answers to blanks: **circumstances, words, God, Depression; Disappointments**]