First Love Ministries of Perry, Georgia USA
Prayer Study #540

Jacob: The War between the Flesh and the Spirit

Gather together and hear, you sons of Jacob, and listen to Israel your father.
Genesis 49:2

Background of Jacob

Jacob was the second son of Isaac and Rebekah and a twin brother of Esau, his older brother, since Esau was born first. (There are three sets of twins in scripture: Esau and Jacob-Genesis 25:23-28-, Pharez and Azrah-Genesis 38:25-30, and Thomas the disciple. We know Thomas was a twin, because he was called Thomas Didymus, meaning *Thomas the twin*-John 11:16, 20:24, 21:2 but we know nothing about his twin). Esau means hairy. He was also called Edom, which means red. He was born with red hair and was very hairy.

Jacob and Esau were victims of both their mother's and father's partiality (Genesis 25:28-*And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison, but Rebekah loved Jacob).* Jacob means *supplanter* (in the sense of taking something which is not yours or being crafty and deceitful), and Jacob also means *take by the heel*. He grabbed Esau's heel when Esau was coming out of the womb. The Jews saw this as Jacob's *in utero* attempt to be the first born. He seemingly came into the world trying to gain Esau's rightful place as the first born. The firstborn child was granted leadership over the whole family when the father died. He also inherited twice as much (or the double portion), as the younger son(s). Even more importantly, the first-born son, Esau, in this case should have inherited the covenant promise given to

Abraham and should have been given the greater blessing by Isaac. Jacob tricked his own father, with his mother's help, so that Isaac gave Jacob, whom he thought was Esau, the blessing he had intended to give to Esau. This action enraged Esau who then wanted to kill Jacob.

Esau was, however, not really interested in spiritual things and totally went after the flesh, i.e. what would satisfy the five senses, and material things. His anger toward Jacob was all about money. He planned to murder Jacob, but Jacob fled to Haran. Years later when Jacob returned, Esau was gracious to him because Esau had taken possession of his father's entire estate, since Jacob had fled and was out of the picture, thus allowing Esau to become a rich man.

Jacob was selfish. When Esau came in from the field, tired and hungry, Jacob would not give him food without bargaining over it. He gave the food only when Esau agreed to give Jacob the birthright. The birthright could be:

a) Sold (Genesis 25:29-34; Genesis 27:36; Hebrews 12:16; Romans 9:12-13)
b) Forfeited because of sin (1st Chronicles 5:1-2), or
c) Set aside by God (Genesis 25:23; Genesis 48:15-20; 1st Kings 2:15; and 1st Chronicles 26:10).

Herbert Lockyer writes this about Jacob: Jacob cheated (Genesis 25:29-34); deceived (Genesis 27:1-29) was compelled to flee (Genesis 27:43; 28:1-5); had a romance spoiled and was paid back by being deceived by his father-in-law Laban; and was disciplined by God through affliction (Genesis 37:28, 42:36).

But Lockyer also points out his good qualities: He was affectionate (Genesis 29:18), was industrious (Genesis 31:40),

was prayerful (Genesis 32:9-12 & 24-30), received a divine call to the promised land (Genesis 31), and was a man of faith (Hebrews 11:21). In the end he was God's man and was blessed with 12 sons who became the foundation of a nation.

We all know the story of how Jacob was deceived by his father-in-law Laban and married Leah, whom he thought was Rachel. Then he had to work 7 more years for Laban to obtain his true love, Rachel. He also was deceived by his sons into thinking Joseph was dead. He certainly reaped what he sowed!

Jacob, after wresting with God all night, was later renamed *Israel*, by God. Again Jacob means *deceiver* or *he who will take by the heel*, but Israel means *one who contends with God* or *he shall be prince of God*. [Other people in the Bible were renamed for various reasons, but I can recall only four who were renamed by God Himself: Abram (*exalted father)* became Abraham (*father of many nations);* Sarai (*princesses)* to Sarah (*a princess*); Jacob to Israel as already explained; and Simon (*hearing* or *harkening*), renamed by Jesus, to Peter (*a rock*).]

The Holy Spirit uses both of Jacob's names, Jacob and Israel, in the same verse to represent the Jacob or flesh nature side of Jacob and Israel to represent the spiritual side of Jacob. This represents the fight that we all are engaged in, the Spirit versus the Flesh.

THE SPIRIT VERSUS THE FLESH

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh; for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal [of human devising] , *but mighty through God to the pulling down* [demolishing] *of strongholds* [fortresses], *casting down imaginations* [vain

reasoning and over analyzing] *and every high thing* [high mental thought or thing] *that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God* [the Word], *and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ*.
2nd Corinthians 10:3-5

<u>We are a tri-part being made in the image of God.</u>

1. *And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness…* Genesis 1:26a
2. *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.* 1st Thessalonians 5:23

<u>Spirit, Soul, and Body</u>

1. The Spirit is the real you. The scripture often refers to this as the Inner Man. Your spirit was dead in trespasses and sins until you accepted Christ in your heart, and your spirit was born again. This was an instantaneous work of grace. The spirit wants what is of God and is God conscious.
2. You were born with a Soul. The Soul is the Mind, Will and Emotions. The Soul is renewed over a process of a lifetime by the Washing of the Word. Therefore, the Word is most important in a believer's life, not only because it is a weapon of warfare against the enemy, and not only because it gives us the pattern we are to live by and exposes the lies of the enemy, but also because it causes our mind to come in alignment with the Word of God. The Soul wants what is of self and is self-conscious so we have to grow

through the Word to the point that our desires become synonymous with His desires. Again this is a process over a lifetime.

3. The Body is the carton you come in. It is controlled by the 5 senses: taste, see, feel, hear, and smell. The Body is constantly dying little by little, and the Lord wants our *flesh nature* to be dead. When Jesus comes, we will get a glorified body. When we are in proper alignment, our Spirit is in control, followed by our renewed mind, and our Body will operate under the power of our Spirit Man.

(Note: When scripture uses the word *heart*, it is generally referring to both spirit and soul. And again *Inner Man* is synonymous with *spirit*, and *flesh nature* is used in reference to our body. Recent scientific discoveries reveal that the heart is as much a "thinker" as the brain. Knowing this makes scriptures suddenly make sense, such as Psalm 16:7b-*My heart also instructs me in the night seasons;* Proverbs 23:7a-*For as he thinks in his heart, so is he;* and 1st John 3:20-*For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.*)

The Results of Walking in the Flesh

1. **We are open to temptation**. Matthew 26:41 *Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*
2. **We have sinful impulses which lead to death**. Romans 7:5 *For when we were in the flesh, the sinful impulses, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.*

3. **There is no good thing in us.** Romans 7:18a *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing…*
4. **We are open to condemnation**. Romans 8:1 *There is, therefore, no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, WHO WALK NOT AFTER THE FLESH, but after the Spirit.*
5. **We don't please the Lord.** Romans 8:5-8 *For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh, but they that are after the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither, indeed, can be. So then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God.*
6. **You have a lust problem**. Romans 13:14 *But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.*
7. **You shall not inherit the Kingdom of God**. Galatians 5:16-21 *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit and the Spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But, if ye are led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousy, wrath, factions, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and the like; of which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they who*

do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. The Living Bible translates those works of the flesh this way: *sexual immorality, impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, idolatry, participation in demonic activities, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outburst of anger, selfish ambition, divisions, the feeling that everyone is wrong except those in your own little group, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other kinds of sin.*

8. **You are rebellious(despising government) and self-willed.** 2nd Peter 2:8-10 *(For the righteous man* [Lot] *dwelling among them* [people of Sodom and Gomorrah] *in seeing and hearing vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds), the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished but chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise government. Presumptuous are they: self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.*

<u>The Result of Soulish Religion</u>

Soulish religion is not aligned properly under the spirit. It is often full of arrogance, haughtiness, opinions, pride, boastings, dominance, pushiness, unbelief, disobedience, self-willed, lack of commitment, unfaithfulness, no punctuality, no reliability or dependability. It is telling God where you are going and what you are going to do and asking Him to bless it, instead of surrendering your life to God's life and asking Him what He wants done. We must allow the Spirit of the Lord to deal with our soul nature so that we can come out as someone

who will glorify Christ and release the Spirit of God to people rather than manipulating and influencing with our personalities, popularity or good looks, which appeal to soulish thinking. The soul is the seat of the source of most of the problems we have in conforming to the image of Jesus. Since it is also the seat of personality, we should be conforming our personalities to the character of Jesus, the pattern Son. It is not that God wants our personalities dead. He wants us to reckon ourselves dead, meaning no longer independent. When you are born again, you lose the right to be your own God, and your spirit should be your authority over your soul. (Much of this information came from Randy Shankle in *The Merimos.)*

<u>Walking in the Spirit</u>

1. **You produce fruit.** Galatians 5:22-25 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control, against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

The Message, Galatians 5:25-26 *Since this is the kind of life we have chosen, the life of the Spirit, let us make sure that we do not just hold it as an idea in our heads or a sentiment in our hearts, but work out its implications in every detail of our lives. That means we will not compare ourselves with each other as if one of us were better and another worse. We have far more interesting things to do with our lives. Each of us is an original.*

2. **You receive eternal life.** Galatians 6:7-10 *Be not deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have, therefore, opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*

3. **You have no confidence in the flesh.** Philippians 3:3 *For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the spirit and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.*

4. **You are alive in the Lord.** John 6:63 *It is the Spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit, and they are life.*

5. **You are a candidate for the Manifested Sons of God Company.** Romans 8:13-14 *For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye, through the Spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

   When we walk in the Spirit, we allow our spirit to give control to the Holy Spirit within us. We become responsible for neither grieving or quenching the Holy Spirit.

Grieving and Quenching the Spirit

1. Believers grieve the Holy Spirit when they do things outside His Will. *And grieve not the holy spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.* Ephesians 4:30
2. Believers quench the Holy Spirit when they don't do what He prompts them to do. *Quench not the Spirit.* 1st Thessalonians 5:19

Rick Renner, a Greek scholar, tells us, "Many years ago, when I first studied the word "grieve" in Ephesians 4:30, I ran to my bookshelf and pulled out my Greek New Testament to discover exactly what the word "grieve" meant. I found that this word was taken from the Greek word *lupete*. This surprised me, because the word *lupete is* from the word *lupe*, which denotes a pain experienced between two people who deeply love each other. This word *lupe* normally is used to picture a husband or wife who has discovered his or her mate has been unfaithful. As a result of this unfaithfulness, the betrayed spouse is *shocked*, *devastated*, *hurt*, *wounded*, and *grieved* because of the pain that accompanies unfaithfulness. This tells us, first of all, that the relationship that exists between us and the Holy Spirit is precious! The Holy Spirit is deeply in love with us. Just as someone in love thinks about, dreams of, and cherishes the one he loves, the Holy Spirit longs for us, thinks about us, desires to be close to us, and wants to reveal Himself to us. But when we

act like the world, talk like the world, believe like the world, and respond the same way the world does, we cause the Spirit of God to feel shock, hurt, and grief. You see, when we deliberately do what is wrong, we drag Him right into the mire of sin with us, because he lives in us and goes wherever we go."

Renner goes on to say, "The word "quench"…is taken from the Greek word *sbennumi*. The word *sbennumi* means *to extinguish*, *smother*, *suppress*, *douse*, *put out*, *snuff out*, or *to quell*. It most often means to extinguish a fire by dousing it with water. In some places it means *to evaporate* or *to dry up*. There is no doubt what Paul is trying to tell us. If we ignore the Holy Spirit's voice long enough and often enough, eventually we will become spiritually hardened and will no longer be able to hear Him when He does try to speak to us. It will be like His voice *evaporates* or *dries up*, and we will hear it no more."

Like Jacob, every one of us have ,no doubt, at times grieved and quenched the Holy Spirit. The Lord is never happy with a deceiver and will confront us because He loves us so and wants to change us. Jacob had two major encounters with the Lord that radically changed his life.

Jacob's First Major Encounter with God at Bethel

First, in Genesis 28:10-22 at Bethel:

10-*Now Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran.*
11-So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night, because the sun had set. And he took one of the stones of that place and put it at his head, and he lay down in that place to sleep.

12-Then he dreamed, and behold a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.
13-And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants.
14-Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
15-"Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."
16-Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it."
17-And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"
18-Then Jacob rose early in the morning and took the stone that he had put at his head, set it up as a pillar, and poured oil on top of it.
19-And he called the name of that place Bethel; but the name of that city had been Luz previously.
20-Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on,
21-so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God.

22-And this stone which I have set up as a pillar shall be God's house and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."

Bethel means *House of God*. It was here that *the* Lord God became the Lord, *my* God, for Jacob. The stone pillar most likely represents Christ Jesus, the stone the DISOBEDIENT rejected in 1st Peter (…."*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame." Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious, but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone," and "a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense." They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed*.) The Bethel experience is a type for the born-again experience. Here Jacob acknowledges this salvation by raising a stone pillar altar anointed by oil and by pledging to give the Lord tithes for the rest of his life. Yet still Jacob was Jacob, truly born again but not filled with the Spirit. He walked as an Old Testament believer but was still carnal and deceitful as the following chapters reveal.

Jacob's Second Major Encounter with God (20 YEARS LATER)

Genesis 32:22-32:

22-And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok.

23-He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had.

24-Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

25-Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip, and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him.
26-And He said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"
27-So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob."
28-And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel ["wrestler with God," "prince with God," or "contender with God"]; for you have struggled with God and with men and have prevailed." [To voluntarily tell an opponent your personal name was to surrender to him. In the case of Jacob, whose name means "supplanter" or "deceitful," it was also to confess a deep character flaw.]
29-Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray."
And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there.
30-So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."
31-Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.
32-Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank, which is on the hip socket, because He touched the socket of Jacob's hip in the muscle that shrank.

Peniel is a very rugged and desolate place. Jacob is not a happy man when he comes to this place. He is full of fear and doubts. He had taken the birthright and blessing from Esau in a deceitful way. God had promised these things to him, but He did not tell Jacob to take them the way He did. If he had just had faith and waited on the Lord, he would not have been in this situation.

Jacob sends his entire family on the other side of the brook Jabbok so that if his brother Esau comes, Esau might kill Jacob but spare his family. He is all alone before the pre-incarnate Christ Jesus, the Jehovah of the Old Testament, shows up. He wasn't wrestling Jacob to find out how strong he was but to see how persistent Jacob would be. After Jacob's struggle with the Lord at Peniel, the Lord gave Jacob a new name: Israel. He is not Jacob, the usurper, the deceiver, the trickster, but a prince who contends with God. How we need "ISRAELS" today who will wrestle with God in prayer!

I believe this is an Old Testament type of CRUCIFYING the old or flesh nature. Jacob was a man of flesh. Now he is a man of faith. And this is the victory that overcomes the world and the flesh nature, even our faith! We have this carnal nature that is an enemy to God. We cannot please God in the flesh. We please Him only when we deny the flesh and yield to the Spirit of God. That is exactly what Jacob did. After all this "contending with God," Jacob finally got it, crucified his flesh nature and yielded to the Spirit of God.

How to Overcome the Flesh Nature

To be tempted is not sin. Even the sinless One was *tempted* by the enemy. It is when we yield to the temptation that it becomes sin. This is a lifelong battle. Even the Apostle Paul had a struggle with overcoming his flesh nature. We must realize that we are in a war. We may lose some battles, but we are going to win the war with the help of the Holy Spirit giving us power, because greater is He that is in us than he that is of the world (1st John 4:4). We must remember that we've been made more than

conquerors (Romans 8:37) through the Blood of Jesus Christ (1st John 1:7). I am in no way giving a simple solution or downplaying the intensity of the battle.

1. TAKE EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE: **2nd Corinthians 10:4-5 AMP-** *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh; for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal* [of human devising] , *but mighty through God to the pulling down* [demolishing] *of strongholds* [fortresses], *casting down imaginations* [vain reasoning and over analyzing] *and every high thing* [high mental thought or thing] *that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God* [the Word], *and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*
2. SPEAK LIFE OVER YOUR SITUATION: **Proverbs 18:21-** *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.* **The Message Bible-Proverbs 18:21-***Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose.*
3. BE SEPARATE AND COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM: **2nd Corinthians 6:17**-*Therefore, "Come out from among them and be separate says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you."*
4. BIND THE SPIRIT BEHIND THE SIN: **Matthew 12:29a- "Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man?... Matthew 16:19b: *...and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."***

5. REPENT OF PAST MISTAKES: **Ezekiel 18:30- "***Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord GOD. "Repent and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin."*
6. QUIT LOOKING BACKWARDS: **Hebrews 10:39:** *But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.*
7. MEDITATE ON PRAISEWORTHY THINGS: **PHILIPPIANS 4:8-** *Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-meditate on these things.*
8. TURN OFF THE BOOB TUBE AND STAY OFF SINFUL WEBSITES: **1st John 2:15-17:** *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*
9. WALK IN THE SPIRIT: **Galatians 5:16:** *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.*
10. COME AND DIE: **Romans 6:3-4**-*Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

a. Death to Relationships: **1st Corinthians 5:11**- *But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral or a drunkard or an extortioner-not even to eat with such a person.* **1st Corinthians 7:23-***You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.* **1st Corinthians 15:33-***Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits.* **2nd Corinthians 6:14-***Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?*

b. Death to Success: **1st John 2:16-***For all that is in the world-the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

c. Death to the Love of Money: **Matthew 6:19-21-*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.***

d. Death to the Flesh: **Colossians 3:5-***Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desires, and covetousness, which is idolatry.*

e. Death to the Power of Sin: **Romans 6:11-***Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive*

to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 7:6-***But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.*

Some Biblical Verses on the Flesh

Romans 7:18-*For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh), nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will do, I do not do, by the evil I will not to do, that I practice.*

Romans 8:5-*For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit, for to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

Romans 8:8-*So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

Ephesians 2:1-3-*And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who not works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lust of the flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.*

Galatians 4:29-*But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now.*

Galatians 5:19-25-*Now the works of the flesh are evident which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outburst of wrath, selfish ambition, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and he 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. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

1st Peter 2:11-*Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from freshly lusts which war against the soul.*

Galatians 6:7-8-
Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.