

GALATIANS

The Gospel & True Freedom

Study 14: Freedom in the Spirit
Part 1 Defeating the flesh

Galatians 5: 16-21



STRUCTURE

1. The True Gospel (Gal 1-2)
2. The Inclusive Gospel (Gal 3-4)
3. The Liberating Gospel (Gal 5-6)

THE NATURE OF TRUE FREEDOM

Galatians 5:13-15 (ESV) For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Galatians 5:13-15
(ESV) For you were
called to freedom,
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Only do not use
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FREEDOM

FALSE FREEDOM

TRUE FREEDOM

A silhouette of a person with their arms raised, breaking chains. The background is a bright, hazy sky with birds flying.

Freedom in Christ

A close-up of the Statue of Liberty's head and crown, holding the torch. The background is a blue sky with clouds.

Freedom in to truly
love like him

A person in a brown robe and jeans is walking on a sandy beach, following a figure in a white robe who is walking away from the viewer towards a bright sunset. The sky is filled with clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong backlight effect. The person in the foreground is wearing a brown robe over blue jeans and is walking barefoot. The figure in the white robe is also walking barefoot. The sand is light-colored and has many footprints on it.

TRUE FREEDOM

**HOW TO I
EXERCISE THIS
FREEDOM ?**





Triggering point for the
flesh to come alive



The image features a silhouette of five people on a rocky mountain ridge against a bright sunset sky. From left to right: the first person stands looking forward; the second person reaches out to help the third; the third person is leaning forward, being supported by the second; the fourth person is also leaning forward, being supported by the third; and the fifth person is on the right, reaching out towards the others. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the background, creating a warm, golden light.

WHAT IS SECRET TO TRUE TRANSFORMATION?

**GALATIANS 6:2 (ESV) 2 BEAR ONE
ANOTHER'S BURDENS, AND SO FULFILL
THE LAW OF CHRIST.**

THE SPIRIT EMPOWERS BUT WE MUST CHOOSE

We make a conscious choice

Galatians 5: 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Freedom is ultimately not attainable by human potentiality; it is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit

LOOK AT THE VERBS

Galatians 5:16-25 (ESV) 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, ...

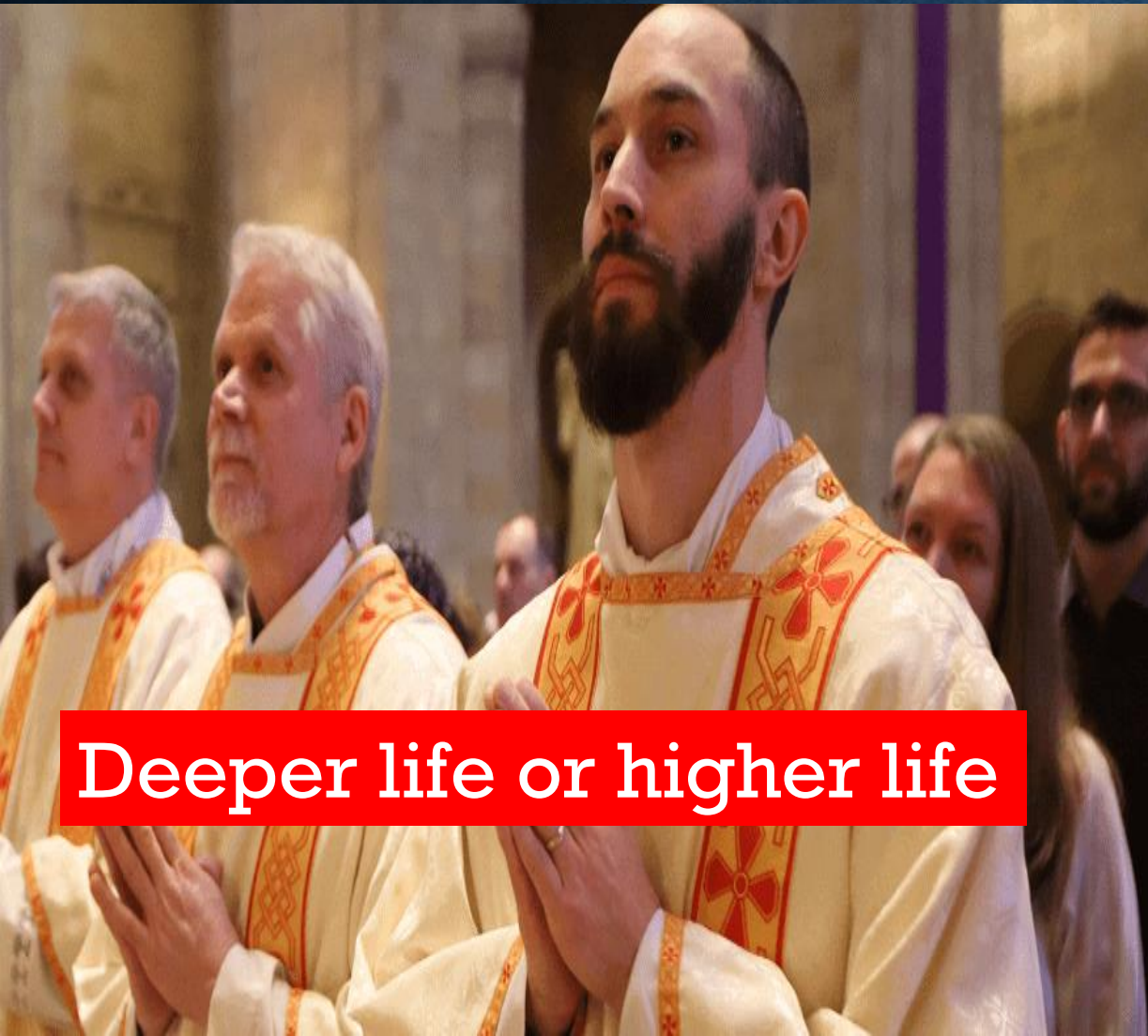
25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

A detail from Raphael's fresco 'The School of Athens' showing Plato and Aristotle. Plato, on the left, is an older man with a long white beard, wearing a purple tunic and a red cloak, pointing his right index finger towards the sky. Aristotle, on the right, is a younger man with a brown beard, wearing a blue tunic and a blue cloak, holding a golden sphere in his right hand and a book in his left. The book's spine is labeled 'ETICA' and its cover 'A.'. They are surrounded by other figures in classical attire.

ARISTOTLE PERIPATEITE

Follow teacher around
Listen, discern

CLERGY VS LAY SACRED VS SECULAR



Deeper life or higher life



Secular-normal life

A person in a brown robe and blue jeans is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach. In the distance, another person in a white robe is walking towards the horizon. The sky is filled with dramatic, golden clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong backlight effect. Footprints are visible in the sand, leading from the foreground towards the distant figure.

SPIRIT FILLED LIFE NORMATIVE LIFE STYLE

Where Spirit is going..
Listen
follow

CONSEQUENCE OF CHOOSING

We make a conscious choice

Galatians 5: 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Consequence of our choice..the Spirits power
Creates new appetites and powers to resist flesh
The desires of the flesh will be thwarted and conquered
as long as the Galatians yield to the Holy Spirit

THE NEW COVENANTAL PROMISE INTERNAL CODE

Ezekiel 36:26-27 (ESV) 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, **and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

The image is a composite of two scenes. The left scene, labeled 'Spirit', shows a man in a white shirt looking directly at the camera in a dimly lit room. In the background, a woman is sitting up in a bed, looking towards the camera. The right scene, labeled 'Flesh', shows a woman in a dark, wooded area at night, looking away from the camera towards a bright light source in the distance. The overall image is split vertically down the middle.

Spirit

Flesh

Galatians 5:17 (ESV) For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

FLESH-SARK

Sensual nature of man

The soft material that
covers the bones

One who is or
becomes a
physical being

Human ancestry

Outward side of life



Physical body

sin-desiring aspect of
our whole being



Flesh -Sark
sin-desiring aspect of
our whole being

OPPOSITION



Holy Spirit
God-desiring aspect of
our renewed being

EPITHUMIA

Galatians 5:16-17 (ESV) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Over

Desire

EPI-THUMIAS

Old translation- Lust
an all-controlling drive and longing

Galatians 5:17 (ESV) 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

IDOLATRY—ANYTHING OTHER THAN GOD



4 CATEGORIES OF SIN

Sex

sexual
immorality,
impurity
sensuality,

Religion

idolatry,
sorcery

Community

enmity, strife,
jealousy, fits of
anger, rivalries,
dissensions,
divisions, envy,

Substance abuse

drunkenness,
orgies(carous
ing)

Sex

sexual immorality



Porneia –sexual sin
extramarital sex

Impurity



Akatasia- defilement
and filthiness generated
by sexual sin.

Sensuality,



Aselgeia :-lack of
restraint and
unbridled passion of
sexual license

Community

- 1) selfish ambition “*eritheia*” – competitiveness, a self-seeking
- (2) envy – “*phthonoi*” – coveting, a desire for what others have
- (3) jealousy – “*zdos*” – the zeal and energy that comes from a hungry ego
- (4) hatred – “*echthrai*” – hostility, an adversarial attitude

Community

- (5) discord – “*eris*” – argumentative, “fight-picking” behavior
- (6) fits of rage “*thumoi*” – outbursts of anger
- (7) dissensions “*dichostaiai*” – divisions between people
- (8) factions “*aireseis*” – permanent parties and warring factions

WARNING

Galatians 5:21 (ESV) I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

THE ISSUE WAS NOT WHO WAS RIGHT

Galatians 5:15 (ESV) 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

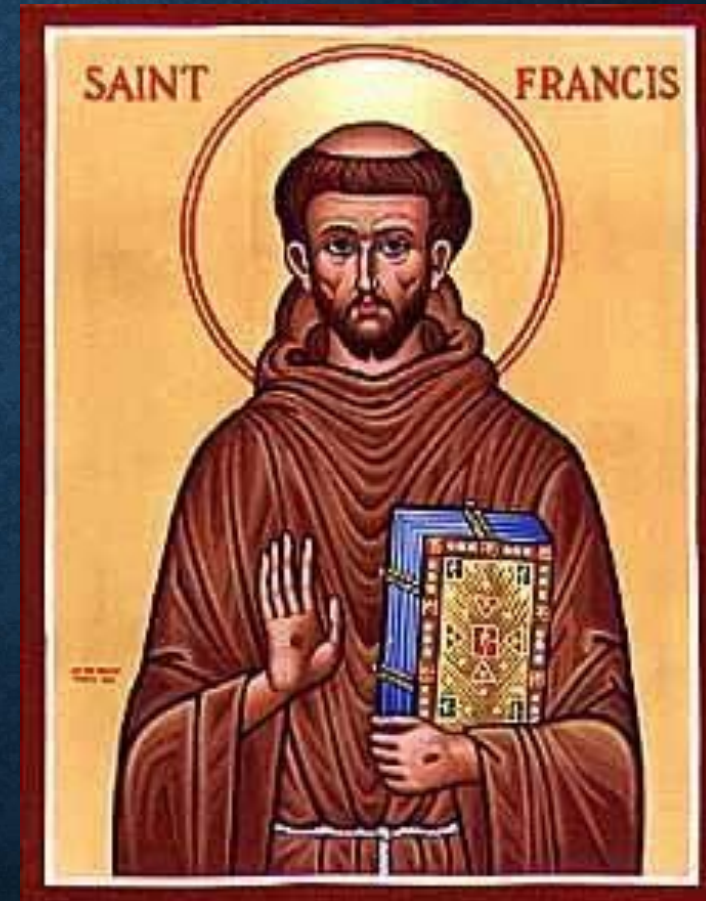
SURRENDER TO SPIRIT NOT TRYING YOUR HARDEST

Galatians 5:16 (ESV) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:24 (ESV) 24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

FRANCIS OF ASSISI

- "I have no greater enemy than my body," "We should feel hatred towards our body for its vices and sinning!"





ROMAN BRONZE PLATE



GEORGE BUSH



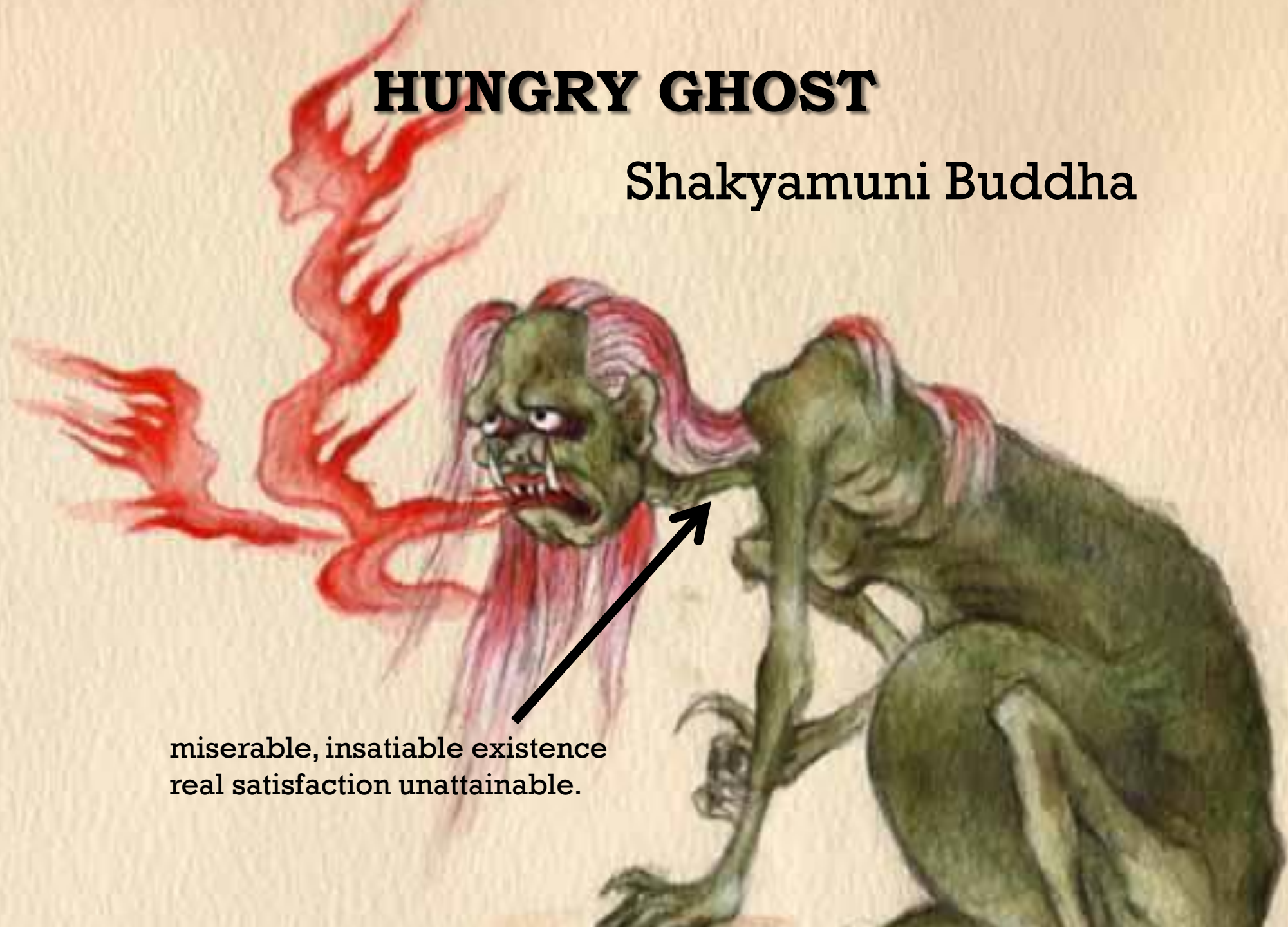
- *"We must inflict our body with all kinds of adversity if we want to deliver it to perfect purity of soul!"*
- *St Bartholomew of Farne*

WRONG UNDERSTANDING OF CRUCIFY



HUNGRY GHOST

Shakyamuni Buddha



miserable, insatiable existence
real satisfaction unattainable.

OUT OF TOUCH WITH REALITY



Key to our behaviour

Lack of faith:

- Do not trust God's grace
- Trust in self salvation

Sin

Sin



BELIEF THAT THESE ARE BETTER THAN GOD

God ← Overdesire

Spirit

Good things

Money, approval, unless
people love you you are
nothing

Flesh

Bad things

BATTLE IS FOUGHT AT THE LEVEL OF DESIRES

God ← Overdesire

Spirit

Spirit has passions and yearnings—cries Abba Father..wants us to commune with the Father through the s=Son
Realise Jesus is not eternal kill joy or hold out

Flesh

Good things

Money, approval, unless people love you you are nothing

Bad things

Flesh wants to be our own messiah

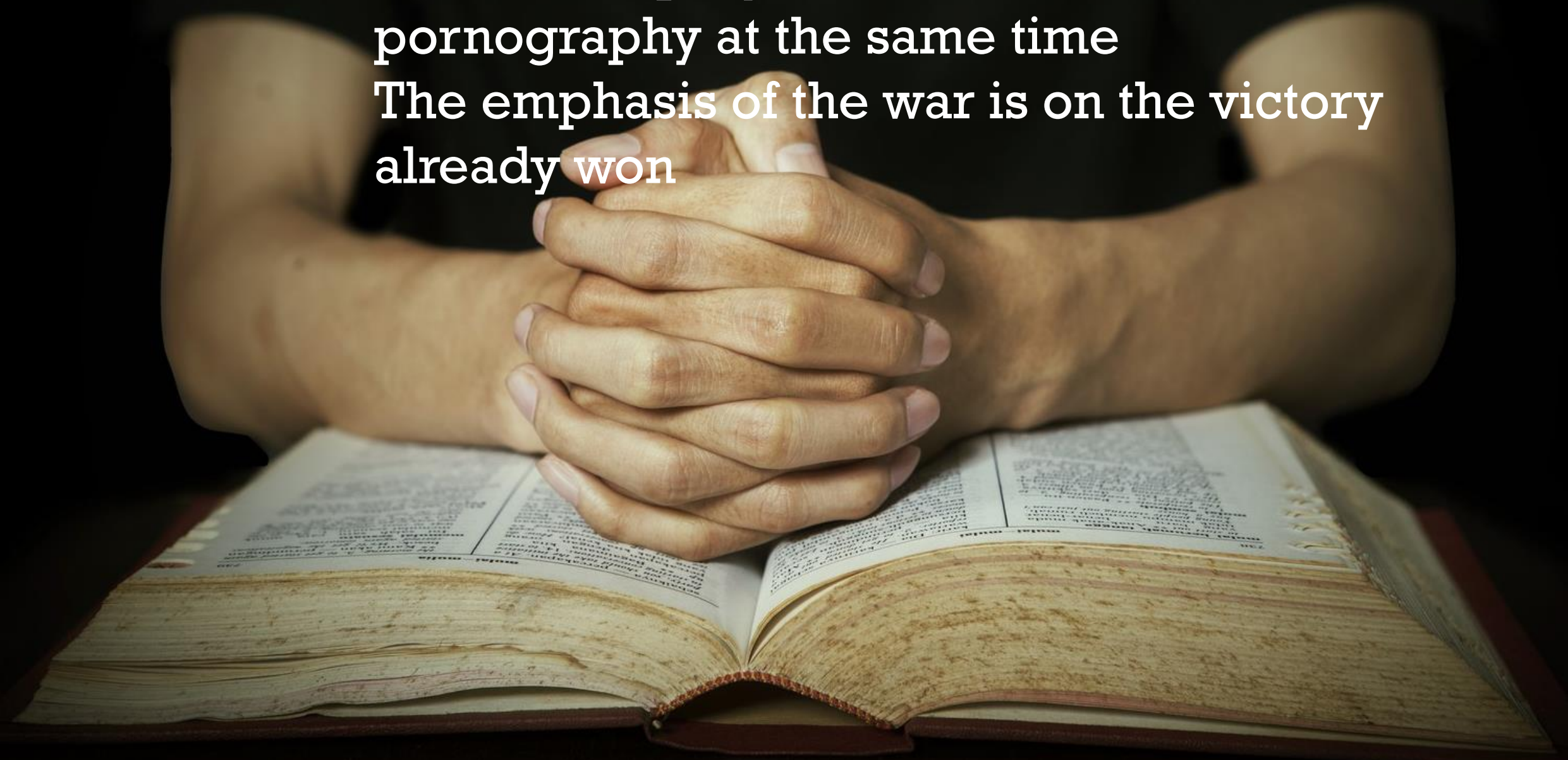


Spirit

Flesh

The presence of the Spirit means daily conflict with self. Praise God for the war! War means you are not satisfied with sin Means the Spirit is at work squeezing out old desires

You cannot pray and look at
pornography at the same time
The emphasis of the war is on the victory
already won



THE GUARANTEE

Galatians 5: 16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

PARALLEL PASSAGES

And do not get drunk with wine,
for that is debauchery, but be
filled with the Spirit, 19
addressing one another in
psalms and hymns and spiritual
songs, singing and making
melody to the Lord with your
heart (Ephesians 5:18-19 ESV)

Let the **word of Christ dwell** in
you richly, teaching and
admonishing one another in all
wisdom, singing psalms and
hymns and spiritual songs, with
thankfulness in your hearts to
God

• (Colossians 3:16 ESV)

HOW THE SPIRIT WORKS

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 ESV 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, **beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed** into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit

TAKING THE GOSPEL-WORD AND BELIEVING

Galatians 2:20 (ESV) 20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live **by faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

LIFE OF FAITH

- Galatians 5:5 (ESV) 5 For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.
- Galatians 5:6 (ESV) 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.