THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

"Works Of The Flesh"
Gal, 5:19-22

Introduction

1. Anything which smacks of "works" is out of harmony with the thrust of this wonderful epistle. It opposes grace, faith, and the Spirit!

2. The choice, therefore, by the Holy Spirit of the term "works" for the energies of the flesh is very salty indeed.

3. Throughout the practical section of the epistle, Paul has pointed out the diametrically opposed principles of "Spirit" and "flesh". How infinitely blessed to "walk by means of the Spirit." To unleash that which comes from the "flesh" is to release a series of unrighteous situations which are diabolical. Mark these works of which every heart is capable and from this convenient outline:

1. MORAL WORKS
These include:
   a. Fornication. This is a reference to habitual immorality. Prostitution and harlotry.
   b. Uncleanliness. This is a reference to moral impurity of whatever guise.
   c. Lasciviousness. This is a reference to open and reckless contempt of propriety.

NOTE: God heads the list of sins here with those which defy moral well being amongst people. How neglectful of these men are today! Surely, any prayerful consideration of the points here spell the lie to current moral standards!

2. THEOLOGICAL WORKS
These include:
a. Idolatry. This is the recognition of false 
gods or the replacing of the true God.
b. Witchcraft. This is the secretive tampering 
with the powers of evil, e.g. spiritualist 
mediums, curious arts, and use of medicines!

NOTE: These sins refer to both open and covered re-
jection of the one true God of Glory!

3. SOCIAL WORKS
These include:

a. Hatred. Enmities; opposed to love.
d. Wrath. Explosions of inward feelings.
e. Strife. Factions; party-making.
f. Seditions. Standing apart which results in 
taking sides.
g. Heresies. Sects; schools of opinion; organ-
ized parties.
h. Envyings. Feelings of ill-will; deprive one 
of what he has.

NOTE: The advance to climax in these works is 
evident. The intensity of their awfulness is 
patent at every turn. The wreckless manner in 
which many neglect these important matters ought 
to stir up the prayerful heart vigorously.

4. PERSONAL WORKS.
These include:

a. Drunkenness. Excessive indulgence in strong 
drink. Term "excessive" used only to point 
out that medicinal uses are allowed. Bible 
is against drink!
b. Revellings. Consequences of drunkenness. 
The concommitant of drink! Parties.

NOTE: Nowhere in our Bibles is the personal debauchery 
of drink supported. Let those who seek refuge in 
Christ's wine-making or other so called "disputed" 
passages take care what they would "make" the Bible 
teach.

Conclusion

Any who really desire to be "led of the Spirit (v. 18) 
will shudder to think that their own flesh is capable 
of such horrible sins as described here. The point 
is: any who practise (present tense) such things will 
have consequences too terrible to think about - ex-
clusion from the kingdom of God. Amen.