

Now we have covered this fruit very rapidly. We have come face to face with the fruit of the Spirit - this love.

Now you say, how shall I love?, What can I do? How can I be a partaker in the fruit of the Spirit?

24 - V. 24 - The answer is found and they that are Christ, have crucified the flesh. With the affections and the lusts. Paul looks back - he traces his own Spiritual life to the fellowship with the crucifixion of Christ. Which he had undergone at his conversion, Gal. 2:20. He assumes that his converts have likewise crucified the will of the flesh. And here is a rule that is dictated by the Spirit of God. How am I going to get into this? It is not necessarily an easy victory. Because misdirected interests of the old life create problems.

And they that are Christ's have crucified.

It does not say that they that are Christ's should crucify. They have done so when they put their trust in the Lord Jesus.

They trusted in the one crucified in their behalf. And therefore, can say, I have been crucified with Christ. It is a settled thing. If you have crucified the flesh, if you have recognized the fact that Christ's crucifixion is yours - then do not live in that to which you have died.

25

V. 25 - He says, if we live in the Spirit - let us also walk in the Spirit. If we have this new life - if we have linked up with the risen Christ, let Christ control your ways. Let us be yielded to Christ. And walk in the Spirit. And seek nothing else.

Now there would be some one who would say, that is a high standard. And I am afraid that I cannot attain to it.

No, and I can never attain to it in my (own) strength. But if you and I are yielded to the Holy Spirit of God, and allow him to make these things real in our lives, we will indeed attain to this ideal set before us here.

Christ
His life, his whole life, will be lived in and through your life. May God give us the knowledge to know the reality of this marvelous truth that is set before us here. That we will have victory - like the victory of salvation.

23

V. 23 - The concluding part says - there is (no law) dealing with such things as love, joy, peace, long-suffering, etc. Why not, because there is no need for one. There is no law that could forbid such qualities. Or need to control such qualities.

Because those who have, on the principle here, identified with Christ.

We have come a great distance - and as Christians, we can say, I am what I am by the grace of God. One man said, I am not what I ought to be. And I am not what I shall be. But I am not what I was. And I mean to be like him - like Christ.

Therefore the word walk is used - frequently used to describe a Christian life. We are on a journey of life. We need to be guided and controlled by this walk which we take.