



**THE FLESH
VS
THE SPIRIT**

Glen Gerhauser

**Church on the Park
Sunday, 6 NOV 2022**

Psalm 145:1-2

ארוממך אלוהי המלך

Inspiration Translation by Glen Gerhauser

I will
Lift you high,
My God the King;
I will bless your name
Forever and continually.

Through
Every day
I will bless you;
I will praise your name
Forever and continually.

DECLARE:

*You are King over me –
Not my flesh, not the world, nor the evil one.
Only you are King over me –
my feelings are not my god,
my thoughts are not higher than yours,
and my desires are not lord over me.
You alone are my King.*

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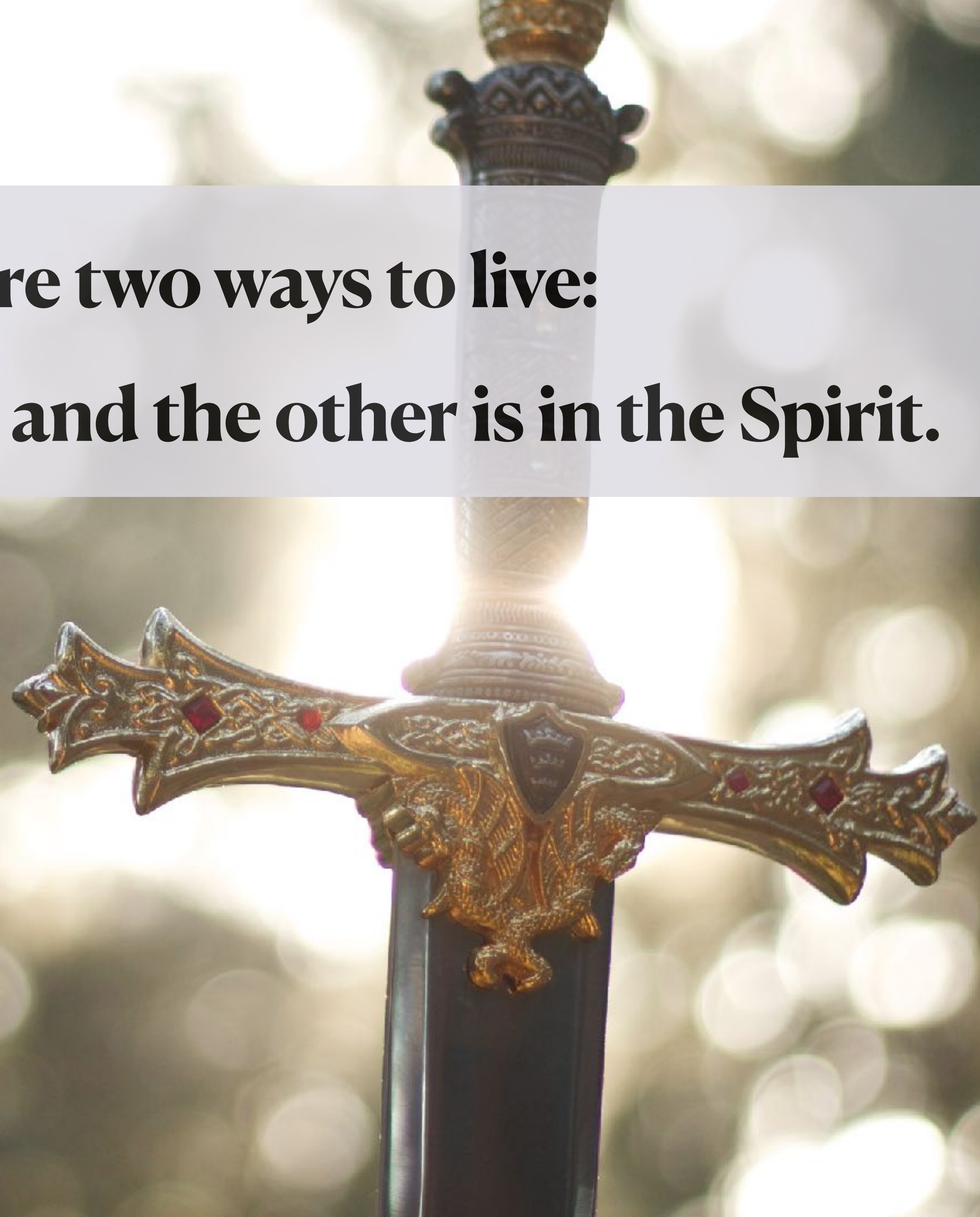
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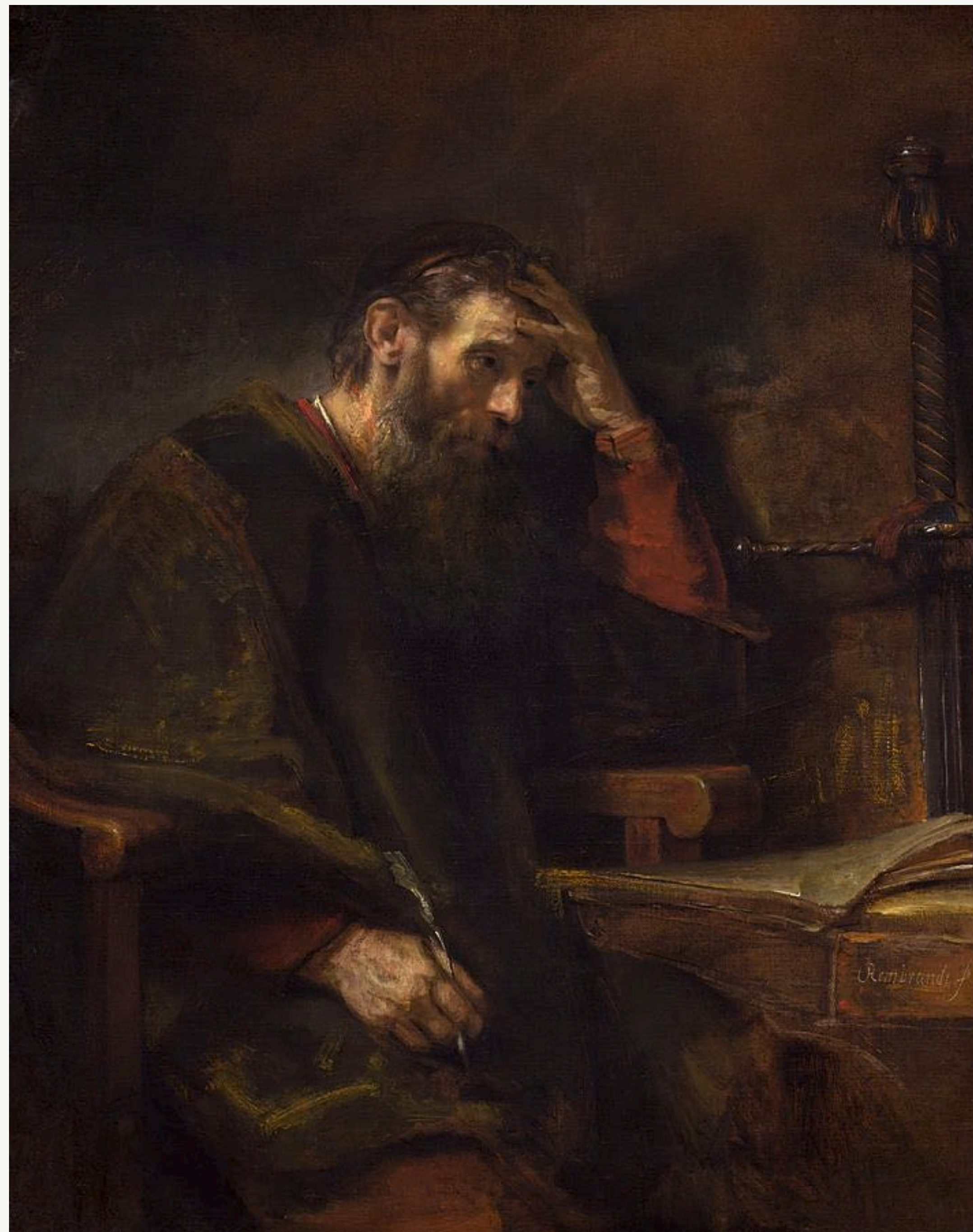
**There are two ways to live:
One is in the flesh, and the other is in the Spirit.**

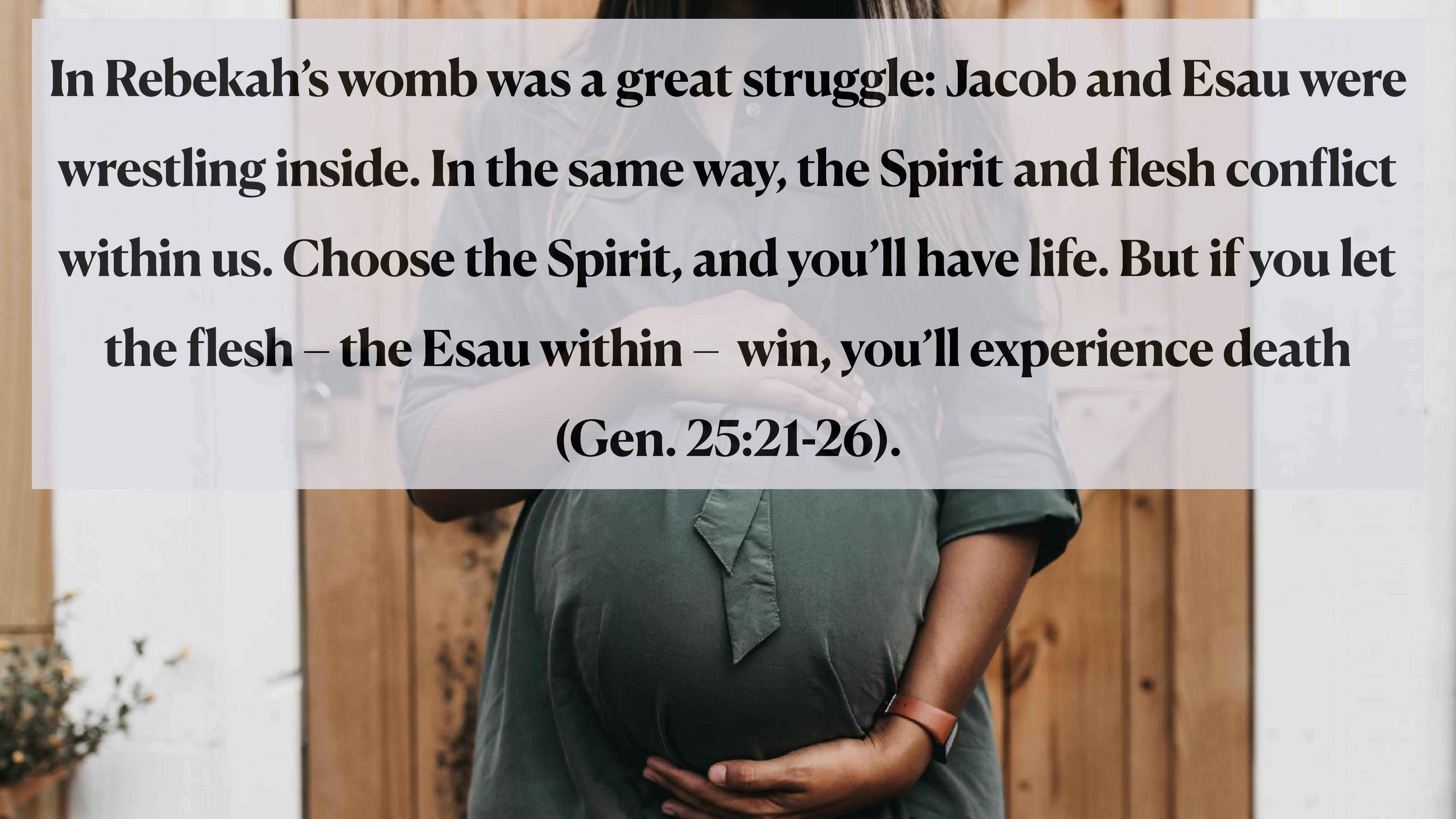


“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. The acts [works] of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God (Gal 5:16–21, NIV).

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other” (Gal. 5:22–26, NIV).

Paul's passion is that those who believe in Jesus would be the people of God, not merely in name but in fruit. Paul is not first and foremost concerned that they 'get into heaven' but rather that they reflect God's image and likeness on earth. This is only possible if they live in the Spirit.

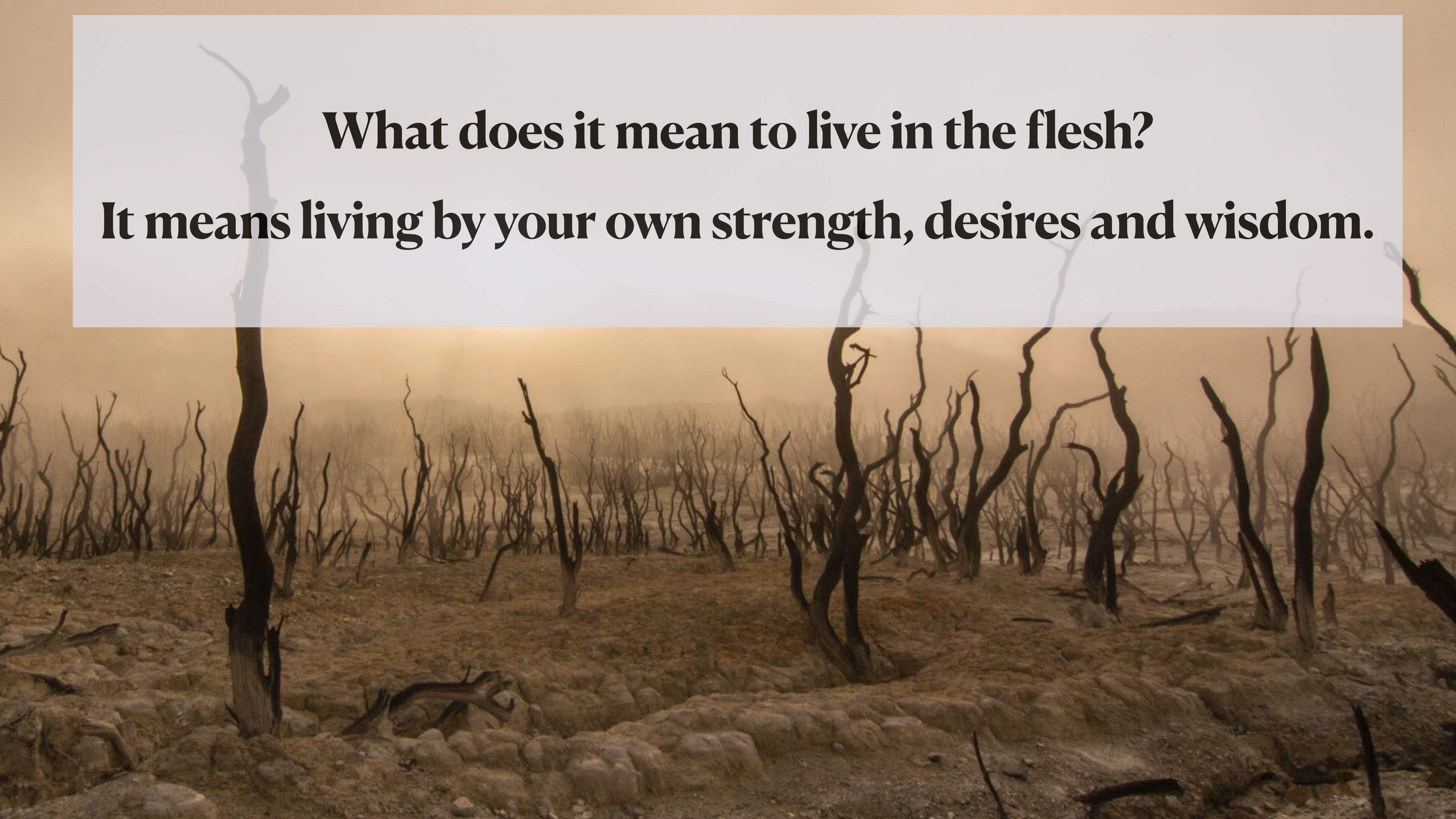


A pregnant woman is shown from the waist up, wearing a green short-sleeved shirt. She is holding her belly with both hands. The background is a wooden wall. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid on the image, containing the following text:

In Rebekah's womb was a great struggle: Jacob and Esau were wrestling inside. In the same way, the Spirit and flesh conflict within us. Choose the Spirit, and you'll have life. But if you let the flesh – the Esau within – win, you'll experience death (Gen. 25:21-26).

What does it mean to live in the flesh?

It means living by your own strength, desires and wisdom.



The Works of the Flesh (Gal. 5:19-21)

Sexual Sins

Sexual Immorality, Impurity and
Debauchery

Spiritual Sins

Idolatry, Witchcraft

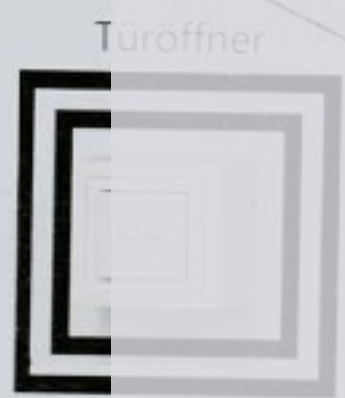
Relational Sins

Hatred, Discord, Jealousy, Fits of
Rage, Selfish Ambitions,
Dissensions, Factions, Envy

Excessive Sins

Drunkenness, Orgies and the Like

Here's the issue: we all want grace for ourselves, but we don't want to give grace to others who hurt us. This was Jonah's struggle: he didn't want the Assyrians who caused Israel so much pain to receive God's compassion and grace (Jonah 4:1-3). Our flesh wants people to get what they deserve. Live in this way, and you'll also get what you deserve: the full weight of the law, which is death.



The only way to deal with the flesh is to let the Spirit crucify it (Rom. 8:13).

You can't suppress it, hide it or make a treaty with it. Our flesh is like the Gibeonites that Joshua encountered (Joshua 9:1-27). They appeared other than who they really were; they pleaded for Israel's help. Joshua was meant to put them to death, but instead, he made a covenant with them. Your flesh will also try to deceive you, but the only place for it is on the cross.

What does it mean to live in the Spirit?

It means walking empowered by God's life-giving presence. When you live in the Spirit, you live by the Spirit's strength, desires and wisdom. You live in the realm of Jesus' resurrection life and power amid this world of decay and death.




**Living in the Spirit doesn't just mean,
'I've received God's grace,' but rather,
'I've received God's grace, and I'm
actively giving his grace to others,
even if they've hurt me.'**



It's impossible to live like God's family without living by the Spirit.



A close-up photograph of a fishing net being hoisted from the sea into a wooden boat. The net is white and glistening with water, creating a complex web of lines. The boat's interior is a warm, reddish-brown wood. The background shows the dark blue, rippling surface of the water. The overall scene is dramatic and evocative, symbolizing rescue and community.

The Kingdom creates community. Community is God's net to catch those submerged in the world's system and sins. Without a community connected by the Spirit through love, the lost will not be drawn out of the darkness into the light.

**“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,
just as in Christ God forgave you” (Eph. 4:32, NIV).**



F - Fallen

VS

S - Submitted

L - Lustful

P - Pure

E - Egocentric

I - Intimate with God

S - Sinful

R - Relational

H - Hidden

I - Inspired by God

T - Transformative