

(2) the flesh is crucified (cf. Romans 6)

As Paul says in Colossians 3:5, we are to "mortify" our members, to consider ourselves dead to the desires of the flesh. This is a daily dying. (I Corinthians 15:31)

- Conclusion (verses 25,26)

Verse 25 relates position and outward manifestation. A Christian is in the Spirit positionally, but he must yield to the Spirit and allow the Holy Spirit to change his manner of life. The difference is between regeneration and sanctification.

Verse 26. Paul summarizes by exhorting the Galatians to reject the life of "flesh." "Vainglory" refers to self-seeking and self-exaltation, the very things he described in verses 19-21. The Galatians had a clear choice. If they continued to glory in the flesh they would be identifying themselves with those who are outside God's kingdom. If they repented and sought to be led only by the Holy Spirit, the problem in the church would be resolved. They needed what we all need every day - a good long look at Calvary. They needed to see Christ dying for them, and themselves dying with Christ.