

AFFECTIONS

14 May 2021

Galatians 5:22-24 They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. This is a statement of fact in the past tense, which applies to every believer.

Galatians 4:17-18 We can be affected in a way that is "**not well**" or we can be affected in a "**good thing**."

- The object of the affection determines whether it is good or bad.
- It is a fact that God accomplished the crucifixion of the affections and lusts of our flesh. That is permanent.
- However, we must reckon ourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:11). We must count that to be factual and stay in God's word continually to avoid any impulse to go after the desires of the flesh.

Affection: A state of mind in which the mind is bent toward a particular object of desire.

Disposition: The mere nature, or the natural inclination of a person. Natural preference.

Passion: Excitement by the presence of something or someone.

- The Lord wants us to set our affections on things above (Colossians 3:2).
 - This is something we must actively strive to do. It will not come naturally.
- Your affections as a Christian should not be the same affections you had before you were saved.

FOUR THINGS GOD WANTS YOU TO SET YOUR AFFECTIONS UPON

1. A LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN (Romans 12:10, 2 Corinthians 7:15, 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8).

- a. Your brothers and sisters in Christ ought to be constantly on your mind daily, always making mention of them to God in our prayers (Romans 1:9).
- b. If you occupy your time with things that prevent you from praying for the brethren, that activity is a sin.

2. LOVE FOR HUSBAND OR WIFE (THIS IS NATURAL AFFECTION) (2 Timothy 3:1-3, Romans 1:21-31).

- a. Natural affection is defined (Rom 1) as a man desiring the partnership of a woman, and a woman desiring the partnership of a man.
 - b. Your mind should be constantly occupied with good thoughts and prayers for your spouse.
 - c. When you set your affections upon another man or woman instead (TV, movies, etc.), it is a sin.
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3. THE HOUSE OF GOD (1 Timothy 3:14-15, 1 Chronicles 29:3).

- a. The house of God is the **assembly of believers** gathered together.
 - b. You ought to have a state of mind where you desire to get together with other Christians for the purpose of singing praises to God, testifying of God's goodness, and hearing the preaching of the word of God.
 - c. If your desire to do something else is stronger than your desire meet with God's people for worship, then there is something wrong with your affections.
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4. THE THINGS THAT ARE ABOVE (Colossians 3:1-2).

- a. Notice that you must actively set your affections on things above. God won't force you.
 - b. How much do you think about the Lord on a daily basis? How much of you does God have?
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