

**The Flesh is not pretty.** It's called the "Flesh." Paul said there is a battle within us between the Flesh and the Spirit. He also said, "there is in me, that is in my flesh, no good thing." Our flesh is ugly. Don't pamper it, don't indulge it, don't feed it, don't pretend it's not there. The Flesh is what we are without Christ and the power of God.

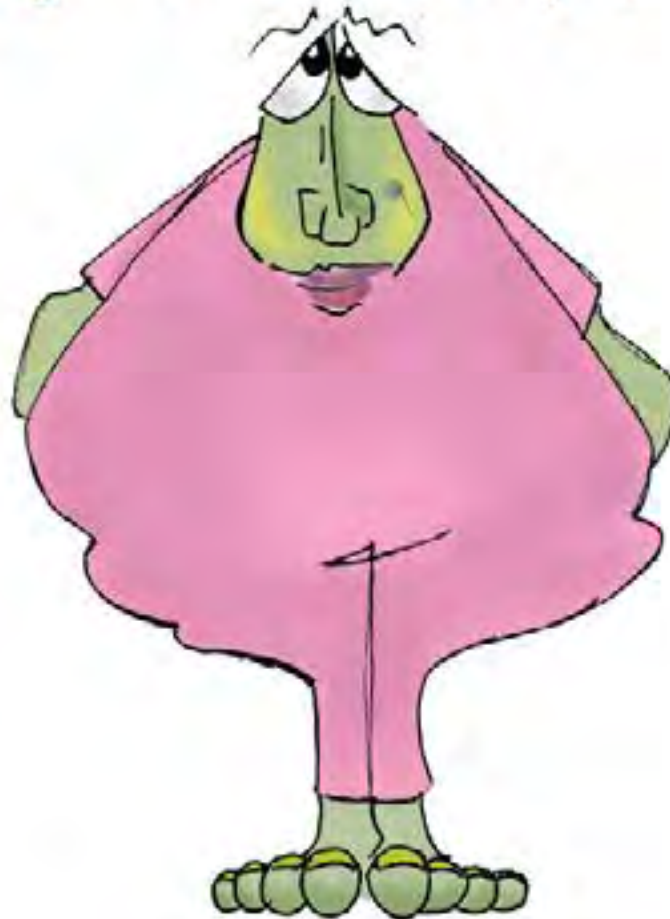
**1.** There are three enemies to our spiritual life and growth. They are the World, the Flesh, and the Devil. The Flesh will work against us if we are not careful. Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (1Cor. 10:12).

**2.** The Devil has a friend in you. Eden had the serpent, and Judas was among the twelve and kept the purse. The flesh is a Traitor and will betray us every chance it gets. While a believer cannot be demon possessed, the flesh if allowed, will listen to the counsel of the ungodly and bad advice of the world. Give no place to the devil (Eph. 4:27).

**3.** The flesh hungers for things of the world. That is why John warned believers, "love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, the lust of the flesh..." (1Jn.2:15)

**4.** The Flesh is not the body which is "flesh and blood." The body is physical the Flesh we are talking about is spiritual. Like a com-

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Salvation involves the Body, the Soul and the Spirit. It involves the Past, the Present, and the Future. There is Justification (the spirit), Sanctification (the soul), and lastly, Glorification (the body). The Flesh must be crucified and left each morning as we follow Christ Jesus by faith. (Gal. 5:24)

puter worm or malware program running secretly in the background, it will sabotage God's best plans for us. (Col. 3:8).

**5.** The Flesh cannot be killed or converted, only caged. We are to "reckon our self dead unto sin" and to be "crucified with Christ," but you cannot crucify yourself. You cannot defeat the flesh with flesh or "will power." Like when the fishing boat captain in "Jaws" who suddenly realized he was up against something larger than he imagined said, "we're gonna need a bigger boat."

**6.** The Flesh is our old nature (with its desires, ambitions, and appetites). It is at the center of what Paul meant when he said "I die daily" (1Cor. 15:31), and what Jesus said "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me(Lk.9:23).

**7.** There is Hope! While it is true that the Flesh is the enemy of the Spirit, the Holy Spirit is the Friend of our spirit. Every time we say "yes" to God, we say no to the flesh.

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