

Agape House of Worship
Interactive Mid-Week Service & Bible Study

Topic: Control Part 2

May 5, 2021

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:14 AMP

Teacher: Deac. Kip Wright

What the Bible says about things that try to control us

1. **Sin - Psalm 19:13 Amplified Bible** - Also keep back Your servant from **presumptuous (deliberate, willful) sins**; Let them **not rule and have control over me**. Then I will be blameless (complete), And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.

Romans 3:9 Amplified Bible - Well then, are we [Jews] better off than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks (Gentiles) are **under the control of sin and subject to its power**.

Romans 8:5 New Living Translation - Those who are **dominated by the sinful nature** think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit.

2. **Anger – Proverbs 19:19 Amplified Bible** - *A man of great anger will bear the penalty [for his **quick temper and lack of self-control**]; For if you rescue him [and do not let him learn from the consequences of his action], you will only have to rescue him over and over again.*
3. **Flesh & Selfish Desires - James 4:1 Amplified Bible - Things to Avoid** What leads to [the unending] quarrels and conflicts among you? Do they not come from your **hedonistic desires** that wage war in your [bodily] members [**fighting for control over you**]?
4. **People - Acts 16:16-19 NIV** - Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” ¹⁸ She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her. ¹⁹ When her owners realized that **their hope of making money was gone**, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.
5. **Pride & Arrogance - 2 Corinthians 10:5 AMP** - *We are* destroying sophisticated arguments and **every exalted and proud thing** that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought *and* purpose captive to the obedience of Christ,
6. **Love of Money - 1 Timothy 6:10 NIV** - For the **love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.
7. **Religion - Galatians 5:1 NLT** - So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don’t get tied up again in **slavery to the law**. **Galatians 5:1 New Life Version** - Christ made us free. Stay that way. Do not get chained all over again in the Law and **its kind of religious worship**.
8. **Evil/Wicked Thoughts – Psalm 10:4 NIV** - In his pride the **wicked** man does not seek him; **in all his thoughts there is no room for God**. **Matthew 15:19 NIV** - For out of the heart come **evil thoughts** - murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.
9. **Unforgiveness – Matthew 6:14-15 AMP** - For if you forgive others their trespasses [their reckless and willful sins], your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others [nurturing your hurt and anger with the result that it **interferes with your relationship with God**], then your Father will not forgive your trespasses.

What does the Bible say about what should control us?

1. **The Love of Christ - 2 Corinthians 5:14 Amplified Bible** ¹⁴ For the **love of Christ controls and compels us**, because we have concluded this, that One died for all, therefore all died;
2. **The Peace of Christ – Colossians 3:15 Amplified Bible** ¹⁵ Let the **peace of Christ** [the inner calm of one who walks daily with Him] **be the controlling factor** in your hearts [deciding and settling questions that arise]. To this *peace* indeed you were called as members in one body [of believers]. And be thankful [to God always].
3. **The Spirit of God – Romans 8:9 Amplified Bible** ⁹ However, you are not [living] in the flesh [controlled by the sinful nature] but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God lives in you [**directing and guiding you**]. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him [and is not a child of God].

God's Control/Alignment Provides Freedom

Galatians 5:1 NIV Freedom in Christ - It is **for freedom that Christ has set us free**. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

- Christ went through all He went through (bruised, wounded, whipped, crucified) for our freedom

Galatians 5:1 Contemporary English Version - Christ Gives Freedom - Christ has set us free! This means we are **really free**. Now hold on to your freedom and don't ever become slaves of the Law again.

- We are **really free!** Hold on to your freedom! Even **religion** can be something that tries to control us

Galatians 5:1 International Standard Version - Live in the Freedom that the Messiah Provides - The Messiah has set us free so that we may enjoy the **benefits of freedom** So keep on standing firm in it, and stop putting yourselves under the yoke of slavery again.

- There are **benefits of freedom** but we must be free to enjoy them. **Stop putting yourself** under the yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1 The Message -The Life of Freedom Christ has set us free to live a free life. So take your stand! Never again let anyone put a harness of slavery on you.

- Christ **set us free to live free**. We have to take a stand, we can't let anyone put a harness of control on us.

Self-Control is possible when your under God's control

Titus 2:11-12 NIV ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live **self-controlled**, upright and godly lives in this present age,

Galatians 5:22-24 NIV ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and **self-control**. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

2 Timothy 1:7 Amplified Bible ⁷ For God did not give us a spirit of timidity *or* cowardice *or* fear, but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of sound judgment *and* personal discipline [abilities that result in a calm, well-balanced mind and **self-control**].