Flesh And Blood Cannot Inherit The Kingdom Of God

I. Introduction:

A. A living soul (Genesis 2:4-7).
   1. We know that the physical body of a man and a woman is dead when that person’s spirit leaves that fleshly body (James 2:26).
   2. Life doesn’t end at that point though (1 Corinthians 15:45-49).

B. With that, shouldn’t we think of ourselves as a soul with a body rather than a body with a soul (Zechariah 12:1)?
   1. Think about it, if you were physically dead what would it take for you to be alive again (1 Kings 17:8-24).
   2. Think about it, is your physical body going to Heaven (Philippians 3:20-21)?

II. Body: I Corinthians 15:50-58

A. Our lives need to be about the inward man (II Corinthians 4:14-5:1).
   1. Keep the right perspective about the temporary things of the flesh (Isaiah 40:6-8 and I John 2:15-17).
   2. Remember that you are designed for eternity in one place or another (John 5:24-29; cf. Matthew 25:31-46).

B. Consider how the flesh wars against the spirit (Galatians 5:16-26).
   1. In a context showing the contrast of the carnality under the Law of Moses and the spiritual life in Christ, Paul wrote some things that reveals the process of this point (Romans 7:10-25).
   2. The body wants and that leads to sin if not stopped (James 1:13-16).

C. Think about how looking at ourselves spiritually changes one’s whole perspective about life in this world:
   2. We don’t look at people carnally [color of skin; wealth; culture; body type, etc.] ; we see saved or lost souls (Acts 24:15).
   3. We recognize the brother/sister relationship above all earthly relationships because even marriage is not eternal (Mark 12:24-25).
   4. We look at physical jobs as a means, not as life (I Timothy 5:8 and II Thessalonians 3:10).
   5. We value what is to come far greater than what is (Romans 6:17-22).

III. Conclusion: While the Spirit of God doesn’t directly work through us today, consider this point: Romans 8:12-13