



THE CURSE OF CARNALITY.

June 2013

When we speak of carnality, we are talking about believers who are immature, living in and for the flesh. God says: **“And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ...are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”** ~*I Corinthians 3:1-3*. Every Christian ought to be living a life that is separated unto the Lord; walking in the Spirit and not fulfilling the desires of the flesh. But unfortunately, that is not the case with many. Vance Havner said, *“Let it be observed that the marks of carnality Paul had in mind here were not card playing, dancing, and theater-going (we might add TV). They are indeed marks of carnality, but Paul was concerned with sins we overlook while we lambast other forms of evil. “Whereas there is envying and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal and walk as men?” Some who have long prided themselves that they do not smoke or haunt the movies seem not to have discovered that in their partyism and church strife, they are just as carnal as the worldlings they censure...They are all the more deceptive because such carnality looks so much like zeal for the truth....”* When we live in the flesh and concentrate on having our own way, you can mark it down, we are carnal. As cute as they are, there is nothing more selfish than a baby. When they are hungry, they want to be fed - right now...even if it's three in the morning.

One of the great drawbacks in God's work is many professing Christians are carnal; they are babies and if they do not get their own way, they create a fuss. One attribute of a baby is his constant need to be amused, entertained. Tozer said, *“The most pressing need just now is that we who call ourselves Christians should frankly acknowledge to each other and to God that we are astray; confess that we are worldly, that our moral standards are low and we are spiritually cold.”* Spurgeon said, *“Our being so much like the world...this insisting that we must do as other people do - this is doing more mischief to the world than all our preaching can hope to effect good. Worldliness has gone a long way to destroy the Church of God. I judge it to be the worse cankerworm that assails us.”* The Church of Jesus Christ suffers greatly from believers who have been saved for years, but they are still babies, carnal. Replying to those who insist we must change our standards to meet the times, Tozer said, *“I've been told that I have missed the boat, but I reply that I wasn't trying to catch that boat.”* We cannot lower the standards, they are not ours! It is high time for all true believers to make a full surrender to God through His Holy Spirit! You can't accomplish anything with babies. We are in a war and it requires strong men to win a war. Some Christian parents are going to rue the day they allowed their children (even led them) to go in the ways of the world. If you are a *“baby”* Christian, they will be the same. Examine yourself! Be honest! Are you carnal? Do you always think of yourself rather than of the Lord or others? Are you more concerned with this life than with the next life? Do you have to be entertained? God says, **“Quit you like men.”** I urge you to forget yourself and grow up; get serious about prayer, Bible study (and memorization) and soul winning. If you love Christ, show it by serving Him. He said, **“If ye love me keep my commandments.”** *Challenge Reprint*

FAMILY BIBLE CONFERENCE

JULY 7 - 12, 2013

SEVERAL SPEAKERS
MORNING & EVENING
FELLOWSHIP TIME
SPECIAL MUSIC



Sunday: 9:30, 10:45 & 6:00

Mon.-Fri: 10:00, 11:00, 7:00

Refreshments under the tent - 10:45

THEME:

**“IT IS HIGH TIME TO
WAKE OUT OF SLEEP!”**

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D. L. MOODY'S STATEMENT ON THE CHURCH!

It is important for a person to be a member of some church. I want to say once and for all that I have no sympathy whatever for these professing Christians outside of the church who are too good to unite with a Church. I believe that the best people in this world, and the best people during the last 6,000 years, have always identified themselves with God's people and have taken their stand. I believe it is the best institution under Heaven. If I have said anything that the enemies of Christ have taken up and that has given the impression that I am not a member of a church, I want them to understand that I am an officer in the church, and that I remain an officer in the church, and that I shall remain an officer in that church until my time expires... - D. L. Moody. I personally would say that a believer should not join just any church but a truly Fundamental Baptist Church. It is God's plan to save souls (through faith in Christ's death and resurrection) and then add them to a Fundamental Church - See Acts 2:41, 42. God is not with these "free spirited, independent souls."

SPOILING THE WORK. There was a certain Cartwright who was concerned about his soul and was doing his best to work his way to heaven. He could not see how it was possible to be saved without doing something. His wife was a true believer in Christ and much concerned about him. One day she invited to lunch an evangelist who was at the church. After eating, the man took the evangelist out to his shop to show him some of his work. There was a highly polished wheel there he had just finished. The evangelist picked up a file and made as though he would work on the wheel. The cartwright's hand went out to stop him saying, "Don't do that you will ruin it." The preacher said, "I guess I would spoil your fine work if I tried to add something to it." Putting his arm around the man the preacher said, "Don't you see that a mere mortal adding something to the perfect, finished work of the Son of God, you would only spoil it!" It was not too long before the man was brought to saving faith in Christ. Romans 4:5 says, **“But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.”**

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

It is not that people do not understand the Bible; it's just that they'd rather not.

What we love and what we hate reveals what we really are.

Life with Christ is an endless hope; without Him it is a hopeless end.

To do business with God, you must sever your relationship with the world.

If you are one who needs a lot of attention, just remember, so does a baby.

A man never listens to reason when he has made up his mind to act unreasonably.

WHAT KIND OF CHRISTIAN ARE YOU? A Christian without zeal for God and His Church is not worth much. David Livingstone said, "I have found that I have no unusual endowments of intellect, but I have this day resolved that I would be an uncommon Christian." He certainly was that and as a result was mightily used of God in the salvation of many souls. William Carey said he had no special ability, but He said, "I can plod." He became the father of modern missions. One of the curses of modern Christians is that many are content to be just average - and I tell you that the average is not very high. The Lord Jesus Christ said, **“The zeal of thy house hath eaten me up.”** What about you my Friend? What kind of Christian are you?

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

CHRISTIAN BED & BREAKFAST OWNER LOSES CASE. The following is from “Court Orders Christian Bed and Breakfast to Accommodate Homosexuals after Denying Bed to Lesbians,” *Christian News*, Apr. 19, 2013: “A Christian-owned bed and breakfast establishment in Hawaii has been ordered to accommodate homosexuals who seek lodging for the night following a ruling by the First Circuit Court. Phyllis Young of Aloha Bed and Breakfast in Honolulu was sued in 2011 by two lesbian women from California, who claimed that Young violated Hawaii’s discrimination law by denying them a bed. Diane Cervelli and Taeko Bufford patronized the bed and breakfast in 2007 while visiting a friend in the area, and requested a room. According to reports, when Cervelli noted that the two only needed one bed, Young asked if the women were lesbians. When Cervelli admitted that it was indeed the case, Young explained that she did not feel comfortable with the arrangement because of her Christian beliefs. The women then reported the matter to the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission, who then came knocking at Young’s residence. According to the Commission’s report, Young told investigators that her convictions did not permit her to accommodate the women, and that homosexual behavior is a ‘detestable’ practice that ‘defiles our land.’ The Commission later joined the lawsuit, which was filed by LAMBDA, a homosexual legal organization, on behalf of Cervelli and Bufford. -Copied

PENTAGON SAYS SOLDIERS MAY BE PROSECUTED FOR SHARING THEIR FAITH. The Pentagon has released a statement confirming that soldiers could be prosecuted for promoting their faith: “Religious proselytization is not permitted within the Department of Defense...Court martials and non-judicial punishments are decided on a case-by-case basis...”. The statement, released to *Fox News*, follows a *Breitbart News* report on Obama administration *Pentagon appointees meeting with anti-Christian extremist Mikey Weinstein* (italics mine) to develop court-martial procedures to punish Christians in the military who express or share their faith. (From our earlier report: Weinstein is the head of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, and says Christians--including chaplains--sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in the military are guilty of “treason,” and of committing an act of “spiritual rape” as serious a crime as “sexual assault.” He also asserted that Christians sharing their faith in the military are “enemies of the Constitution.”) Being convicted in a court martial means that a soldier has committed a crime under federal military

law. Punishment for a court martial can include imprisonment and being dishonorably discharged from the military. So President Barack Obama’s civilian appointees who lead the Pentagon are confirming that the military will make it a crime--possibly resulting in imprisonment--for those in uniform to share their faith... Ed. Things just keep getting more and more bizarre! One would almost think they have secretly done away with the Constitution. The truth is not many in Washington think anything of it!

BENNY HINN ASKS SUPPORTERS FOR 2.5 MILLION. Televangelist Benny Hinn has asked supporters of his ministry for \$2.5 million in donations, which he says an anonymous donor will match dollar by dollar to help him get out of debt. “God wants your ministry to be completely out of debt, and I want to plant an anointed seed that will help you take a giant step toward becoming totally debt-free!” says the anonymous man, whom Hinn calls a “long-time and beloved” friend. “God has laid it on my heart to plant a seed of \$2.5 million into your ministry, but God only wants me to make this gift if the ministry partners match the amount within 90 days! I feel so strongly that He wants them to be part of the supernatural wealth transfer that is coming to every believer who will obey God’s Word,” the man reportedly adds...Benny Hinn Ministries has been investigated by the IRS in the past, and was under a 2007 Senate investigation that delved into the financial dealing of a number of high-profile preachers. The ministry has denied any wrongdoing. The preacher has been criticized for using his ministry’s money to buy a private jet and luxury cars, but the exact state of his finances has been kept under wraps. Earlier in April, Hinn led a large service in Trinidad and Tobago where the minister apparently asked the thousands in attendance to each give a \$100 donation to help pay for the two-day event. *Christian Post* 4/29/13. Ed.. More evidence Hinn is a phony. He preaches a “health and wealth” gospel. Where is his faith? It looks like it is in some millionaire friend.

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT! There is a lot of “News You Should Know About” but we can only include a small portion in the Challenge. However, if you will look on our website you will find two whole pages every month: www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org. If you do not have internet, we will be happy to send it to you if you will send us a self addressed, stamped envelope. Believe me, there is a lot of news that you ought to know about every month. The items we include relate to religion, morality, governmental issues, and more.

ARE YOU REALLY THIRSTY?

“As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.” ~Psalm 42:1. When a person is really thirsty, he is not very particular about the way he gets a drink; if he has a silver drinking cup or an old tin bucket. He partakes with no less relish. So, too, when a man is really thirsty for the Lord and His Word - whether the messenger is a silver-tongued orator or just a tin-bucket layman. When people are only half thirsty, they desire “soda pop” or some other such drink sweetened or spiced to tickle their palate. But when they are really thirsty, they want the real thing. Even so, souls who are thirsty for the Word of God want from the pulpit the “pure water of the Word.” From a yellowed leaf torn from an old calendar I read the following: “Alas, God finds comparatively few souls that are empty. Most are filled with self and the trash of this world even though they may be hungering and famishing, it is not after God but more after the “the lust of the eye, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life.” O, how blessed are they whom God has completely emptied of all these things, and whose word is: **“As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.”** Is your heart crying out today for that sweet fellowship with God? Then, let your soul drink deeply at the fountainhead of His Word and you will find the promise of Matthew 5:6 to be abundantly true: **“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.”** -Copied. What is your consuming passion? It ought to be God!

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READY TO SAIL

Wilbur Chapman told the story of an old sea captain who had crossed the Pacific at least fifty times and finally retired. Being an earnest Christian he spent a great deal of his time helping others, especially calling on sailors seeking to lead them to Christ. One day upon visiting the hospital a nurse said to him, “Captain, in the last cot over there is an old sailor who is not long for this world.” When he reached the cot he saw a bunch of little flags displayed, like the ones used to give signals from ships. Striking up a conversation, the Captain said, “Hi, Sir. What do all your little flags mean?” The sailor said, “Captain, have you forgotten your signals?” He answered, “Maybe I’m a little rusty. If I had the book I could read them.” “Well, Captain, I’ll tell you what they say: ‘The ship is all ready to sail’ and ‘She is waiting for orders.’ Captain,” said he, “I know Christ. One day He will come for me.” What about you my dear reader? Do you know Christ as your Saviour? Are you ready to go if He should call you today? One of these days He will call! He said that no man could know the day nor hour. It is up to us to be ready. Jesus said, **“In such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”** Will you not make ready right now? **“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”** **“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”** **“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.”** If you are not ready when He comes, it will be forever too late! Trust Christ NOW! **“Now is the accepted time, behold, Now is the day of salvation.”** ~II Corinthians 6:2