1Thess #88

Carnal death of a Believer

Open up in Ephesians chapter four today RF.

We are moving forward on the theology of death that all Bels need to study and understand. There are 8 principles under this doctrine. Today we will look at the third point under the doctrine of death;

The Carnal Death of the Believer.

Carnality is something we all have from birth to salvation; it is after salvation that it becomes a form of Cosmic Death or Carnality of a Christian. It is a form of temporal death by walking in the OSN.

/The Carnal Death for a Bel falls under 3 categories

Post-salvation sinning; personal sins that we fall in and out of in our daily life.

Post-salvation human good; Deeds of the flesh, this points to legalism and arrogance as well as anything we attempt to do outside of the New Nature that we think is spiritual.

Post-salvation evil; Walking habitually in sin and lust patterns with no concern for repentance and the results of damaging our fellowship with the Trinity.\

The carnal death of the Believer is the subject of some of the teaching in Ephesians chapter 4 & 5.

In fact, in chapter four the Apostle Paul is teaching exactly how the Bel can avoid falling into Carnal Death.

Eph 4:11 And He gave some *as* apostles, some *as* prophets, some *as* evangelists, some *as* pastors and teachers,

*God gave some as* -the Greek term – *some as,* is written in a plural masculine gender, pointing to a male role of leadership. Plural meaning – men, not just one.

God’s grace plan always supplies pastor-teachers and evangelists to speak the word and accurately handle the word.

In every dispensation God has men to fulfill this role. There are no excuses for not studying the Bible and growing toward maturity.

[Eph 4:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/12/s_1101012) for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ;

Bels are called to be under the authority of the WORD of God and also to handle the word accurately as they grow. This is why GOD gave some MEN, as teachers and church leaders.

The purpose for the gift of pastor-teacher is to assist the body of Christ to grow into its full potential.

/[Eph 4:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/13/s_1101013) until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of **the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature** which belongs to **the fullness of Christ.**

This speaks to gaining spiritual ground toward maturity. Becoming more Christ-like which means the New Nature is developing and dominating. \

This is pointing us to the Grace Apparatus of Perception within our soul that God the HS works with to teach us. This means the two power options are working at full capacity in the life of a Believer!

That in turn builds a structure or library we call the Edification Complex of the Soul.

This is what can ensure Carnal Death does not throw a shadow over your spiritual walk.

/[Eph 4:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/4/14/s_1101014) **As a result, we are no longer to be children**, tossed here and there **by waves** and carried about by **every wind of doctrine, by the trickery** of people, by **craftiness**in deceitful scheming;

The Greek present tense tells us - *to no longer be immature!* This is something that has always been a problem and continues to be an issue for many Christians.\

*Every wind of doctrine* - speaks to false teaching and even the Bels own imagination about the scriptures they attempt to interpret on their own.

Satan’s system is full of false doctrine, trickery and crafty individuals with schemes that are influence and in many cases possessed, by demonic forces.

/Eph 4:14 - *tossed here and there by waves  ;*

*Klydōnizomai,* mental disruption, violent waves, to become confused or to fluctuate. It comes from a root word which points to violent, raging waves.\

CLUE-DO-NEED-ZAMY, this has a mental or emotional connotations as much as it does a physical one, in reference to violent waves.

This is actually where I coined my phrase emotional waves from. It came from studying this scripture.

This is not a ripple in the local lake folks! This is twenty miles out to sea in a small boat, when a wind storm picks up.

Jump over to chapter 5.

The danger of sitting on the fence in relation to keeping a strong foot in the cosmic system and a foot in the plan of God, is when you can become a victim of these exact waves I am teaching you about.

/Carnality for a Believer tells us they have never anchored themselves into the plan of God by means of accurately handling the WORD. Carnal Death is walking in evil willfully or ignorantly. It can fall under legalism, pride, self- righteousness, as much as immorality and loose living. \

/Eph 5:14 For this reason it says,  
**“Awake, sleeper**, And arise from the  
dead, And **Christ will shine on you**.”

The Apostle Paul is teaching Bels and the warning was that some were sleep walking! This is a warning about Carnal Death. \

The new nature has no chance of shining… which means, the Fruit of the Spirit becomes manifest in your life, it has no opportunity if the flesh is the dominant nature.

[Eph 5:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/5/15/s_1102015) So then, be careful how you walk, not as unwise people but as wise,

/[Eph 5:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/eph/5/16/s_1102016) **making the most of your time,** because **the days are evil**.

There may be nothing more of greater value than the TIME God gives you every day! Your Time, Talent and Treasure is given to you for the glorification of God in the Angelic Warfare. \

Many Christians believe everything they have such as time, talent and treasure is under their full authority and that is why they are stingy with it!

Somewhere underneath the façade of humility, they think they have earned or deserved time, talent and treasure and they get arrogant with it.

The carnal death of the Believer may also be classified in three ways:

Temporal Death, Cosmic Death and Fragmented Death.

/Temporal Death - describes the Believer out of fellowship with God. This is the status of committing an occasional sin.

Cosmic Death - This is the Believer involved in either legalism and religion, or self-righteous deeds. Or a Bel who lives under grace as a license to sin. Either cosmic one or cosmic two, it simply means reliance upon self and cosmic viewpoint while neglecting the two power options. \

/The Fragmented Death of the Believer, involves either moral or immoral degeneracy in the lifestyle of a Bel. This is the end result of Cosmic Death, it drives a Bel far from the path of the plan of God. This puts a Bel in a difficult walk where they either refuse to humble themselves or they feel it is just to overwhelming to come back to GOD.\

Jump over to 1Corinthians chapter 3.

The Bel with a fragmented life means they have spun out of control and will either become too hard hearted to turn back toward God.

Or they are emotionally distraught and have guilt or shame about how they have been living and can’t face up to the journey back to God.

It doesn’t matter if it is legalism and religion or immoral choices, they are far removed from where they were at one point inside the plan of God.

REPEAT

God is always seeking your best interest even when you fail HE is calling for you!

/Jer 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, **plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future** and a hope.

Jer 33:3 ‘**Call to Me and I will answer you**, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.’\

To come back from a journey into carnal death takes humility - it starts with adjusting to the justice of God and operating in the two power options daily.

/Psa 55:22 **Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you**; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Lam 3:22 **The LORD’S acts of mercy indeed do not end**, For HIS compassions  
do not fail. 23 ***They* are new every morning;** Great is Your faithfulness. \

The Apostle Paul describes carnality to the church at Corinth. Because for many in that congregation they lacked spiritual maturity and they kept bouncing in and out of the plan of GOD.

/1Cor 3:1 And I, brothers *and sisters,* could not speak to you as spiritual people, but *only* **as fleshly**, **as to infants in Christ.**

There was an element of carnality within the congregation that points to Bels heading toward a fragmented lifestyle.\

The first sign a Bel is heading toward Carnal Death is they are still babes in the plan of God and they have been listening to BD and saved for an extended period of time.

[1Co 3:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/3/2/s_1065002) I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to consume it.* But even now you are not yet able,

Every Bel should want to get beyond the milk of the gospel message and get deeper into the full meal of BD.

[/1Co 3:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/3/3/s_1065003) for **you are still fleshly**. For since there is **jealousy and strife** among you, are you not fleshly, and **are you not walking like *ordinary* people**?

You look no different than the Unbel because you are walking in death. Sin brings forth spiritual forms of death. \

The Bel who is walking in carnality is walking like a dead person, no different than the Unbel.

You have been pulled out and ransomed from a slave market of death from sin, and you are making choices to go wallow back in it!

The dog returns to its vomit!

(Prov 26:11)

Jealousy and strife are a sure sign of Carnal Death in a Bel’s life.

/Jealousy – *zēlos,* a mind set aflame by what it does not have, or what others may or may not have. You see others in a dark or negative light if they have any type of achievement above you.

Strife – *eris,* implacable, bitterness deep within that comes out in sins of tongue and disagreements or tension at every turn.\

ZAY-LOSS - is jealousy at a very deep level beginning with your thoughts.

AIR-US - is in the same fashion a mental attitude sin that bubbles up and brings out sins of the tongue and strife in your life.

The Apostle Peter may have said it best in relation to a Carnal Bel heading into a fragmented life;

/2Pet 2:22 It has happened to them according to the true proverb, “**A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT**,” and, “A sow, **after washing**, returns to **wallowing in the mire**.”

(Prov 26:11) \

The fourth point under the doctrine of death coincides with Carnal Death;

/Dead Works- Dead works are all the function of human good apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit. Usually denotes the lifestyle of religious Bels or legalistic type Bels. Wrong motivation followed by the wrong nature, leads to deeds of the flesh that have no spiritual value. Christian service performed outside the plan of GOD are flammable at the Bema Seat Judgement. (1Cor 3:12) \

 This can be classified as “dead works,” which many denominations teach. If you think you can work harder to please GOD or work for salvation. Or you can get up on any given day and do something that ends up in you, losing your salvation, you are being taught false doctrine;

REPEAT

/Heb 6:1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, **not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works** and of faith toward God,\

Close today in 1Corithinas 13 RF.

Dead works are all the function of human good apart from the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Works produced in the cosmic system are dead. Morality and obedience are virtuous only when produced inside the plan of God. In the cosmic system, works are legalism, religion, self-righteousness, and arrogance - they become parlayed into evil in a very short time.

/Christian service is always a result of staying within the framework of the two power options – the New Nature and the WORD motivating your soul. Christian activism in the flesh turns into crusader arrogance very quickly! Anything related to the cosmic system is outside the plan of God, including charity or good deeds performed in the flesh. \

Remember there is moral and immoral degeneracy. Your carnality may not always mean addictions or sexual lust.

The Believer in moral degeneracy can perform hundreds of acts of Christian service, all of which are dead works.

REPEAT

/1Cor 13:1 f I speak with the tongues of mankind and of angels, **but do not have love**, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

The focus is on what type of LOVE he is teaching on. Virtue (Godly) love, is only achieved by walking habitually in the New Nature. \

[1Co 13:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/2/s_1075002) If I have *the gift of* prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

IF I DO NOT HAVE TRUE SPIRITUALITY from the two power options active in my life…I AM NOTHING!

/[1Co 13:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/13/3/s_1075003) And **if I give away all my possessions *to charity****,* and if I surrender my body so that I may glory, **but do not have love, it does me no good.**

The right thing done in the right way matters! \

All works, production, and Christian service of the Bel in the cosmic system is dead, and will be burned at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

All Christian production will be evaluated at the Judgment Seat of Christ,

/1Cor 3:12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with **gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, *or* straw**, 13 each one’s work **will become evident**; for the day will show it because it is *to be* **revealed with fire**, and the fire itself will test the quality of each one’s work.\

/[1Co 3:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/3/14/s_1065014) If anyone’s work which he has built on it remains, **he will receive a reward**. 15If anyone’s work is burned up, **he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved,** yet *only* so as through fire.

(Rom 14:10, 2Cor 5:10) \

The interesting principle about fire is it can be a little frightening, as well as a little uncomfortable when it gets close.

Many Bels will have a few uncomfortable moments just before they begin eternity.