

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

January 3, 2011

The Consequences Of Living Carnal (1 of 5)

Carnal: Anything related to the fleshly or worldly appetites and desires rather than to the godly and spiritual desires. Basic human nature is carnal, but by the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, we have the power through choice. That is to walk in carnality or in the Spirit. People walk either in the flesh or in the Spirit, leading to death or to life. The carnal person is *hostile* to God! Unable to please God (Romans 8:1-11). Can we live any kind of way and God will approve of it? No. Be careful in saying He knows my heart because His ways are not our ways! Also, we are not truly aware of the sin magnitude of our own heart. For the next five weeks, we will discover the results or consequences that take affect due to carnal living.

CARNALITY RESULTS IN DIVINE DISCIPLINE

HEBREWS 12:5-11 NLT – (5) And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, "My child, don't make light of the LORD's discipline, and don't give up when he corrects you. **(6)** For the LORD disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child." **(7)** As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? **(8)** If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of his children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really his children at all. **(9)** Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? **(10)** For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in his holiness. **(11)** No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.

First, let us consider it a honor when one is disciplined by the Lord (**verses 6**)! If you are not disciplined for your incorrect living, consider yourself not His child. You can only be God's child or satans child (**verse 8**). To be disciplined through Divine authority, is to be disciplined by the One who is all knowing, all powerful. He will judge your case justly and the discipline is always for our best and we will not enjoy it (**verse 10**). God will discipline His children and it will be painful (**verses 7 and 10-11**)! Do not think you can put on an extra pair of pants and you won't experience the hits or attempt to cry your way out of the discipline! God disciplines those who belong to Him and it will be an educational experience that He may get us back in right standings with Him. Do not think we can live any kind of way and God will excuse it. If you are getting away with it (and you really are not), maybe you are not His child after all or could it be He will discipline you when you least expect it. Either way, there will be a Divine judgment!

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 5:13-15

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Earth has no sorrow, that heaven can't heal.

January 1, 2011

