

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

January 17, 2011

The Consequences of Living Carnal (3 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 magnitude of sin in our own heart. Let us continue to review the results or consequences that take affect due to carnal living.

CARNALITY RESULTS IN ONE BELIEVING THEY CAN LOSE THE ASSURANCE OF THEIR SALVATION.

2 PETER 1:4 NLT – (4) And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.

Salvation: Christ died for you and me that we may be delivered from the penalty of sin. If we are not saved, we would have to be responsible for our sin, and take the consequences for our sin. The ultimate consequence for sin is to receive the punishment that we deserve, which is to be punished eternally with Satan in Hell. Therefore, to be saved means that we are saved from the punishment that we deserve. If we are "saved," that means the same thing as if we say we have "received salvation."

Not only are we saved by His blood (if we accept Him), but we receive the following promises that relate to a life of holiness according to the Apostle Peter in **2 PETER 1:4: (1)** Freedom from sin's dominion (**ROMANS 6:14**). **(2)** Grace that is sufficient (**2 CORINTHIANS 12:9**). **(3)** Power to obey His commands (**PHILIPPIANS 4:13**). **(4)** Victory over the devil (**JAMES 4:7**). **(5)** Escape when tempted (**1 CORINTHIANS 10:13**). **(6)** Forgiveness if we confess our sins (**1 JOHN 1:9**) and forgetfulness to (**JEREMIAH 31:34**). **(7)** Response when we call (**PSALM 50:15**). Therefore, just like we made a choice to accept Christ, we make wise choices as well to live a Holy life with the help of the Holy Spirit. This is known as sanctification.

Sanctification: Means to be set apart. Set apart from the sinful standards of the world. To do this the believer must add knowledge to his virtue, increasing relationship with the whole truth and will of God. We must add temperance to knowledge; moderation about worldly things; and add to temperance, patience, or cheerful submission to the will of God. Tribulation brings patience, whereby we bear all catastrophes and crosses with silence and submission. To patience we must add godliness: this includes the holy affections and dispositions found in the true worshipper of God; with tender affection to all fellow Christians, who are children of the same Father, servants of the same Master, members of the same family, travelers to the same country, heirs of the same inheritance. Wherefore let Christians labor to attain assurance of their calling, and of their election, by believing and well-doing; and thus carefully to endeavor, is a firm argument of the grace and mercy of God, upholding them so that they shall not utterly fall. Those who are diligent in the work of religion shall have a triumphant entrance into that everlasting kingdom where Christ reigns, and they shall reign with him for ever and ever; and it is in the practice of every good work that we are to expect entrance to heaven.

Note: we are not free of sin! But we don't have to live as unholy people. We have been blessed with power through our choices in life. Many have spoken their acceptance of Christ as their Lord, but the truth be told, only Christ knows who is truly saved (**MATTHEW 7:21-23 & MATTHEW 25:31-46**). Therefore, you can't lose something you never had and if you are saved, you are saved. Once saved, always saved.

SCRIPTURE READING
1 THESSALONIANS 2:3-4

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our salvation is free because Christ paid the price.

January 1, 2011



SOHL's mission is to sow God's word into the hearts of men and women that will propel them to their God-given destiny.