

Is There Such a Thing as a Carnal Christian?

Why Do We Ask?	Definition of the Words	Carnal Christian
<p>- Christian who acts in a fleshly manner</p> <p>- excuse for a Christian to live however they want to live</p> <p>- Assurance that someone who once said a prayer, walked an isle, raised a hand will go heaven when they die - they were a Christian after all, right?</p> <p>This is a wrong question to ask</p> <p>Are those two words actually linked in Scripture</p> <p>What was the context that it was written in</p> <p>Let's set our foundation - main and plain</p>	<p>Christian = a Christ one, a true believer, someone who entered a covenant relationship with God through Jesus Christ - indwelt by the Holy Spirit - He causes us to walk in His ways to bring glory and honor to God</p> <p>Carnal = that which is earthly, worldly, sensual, devilish, demonic, fleshly #G4559 - having the nature of flesh, under the control of animal appetites - governed by human nature - not by the Spirit of God - depravity - unregenerate</p> <p>Gal 5:16-25 - flesh and Spirit are in opposition to each other</p> <p>Jude 4 - if we say we can do both we turn God's grace into licentiousness and deny our Lord (Master)</p> <p>II Cor 5:21 - we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus</p> <p>I Peter 2:24 - we died to sin and live in righteousness</p> <p>Phil 1:11 - we have been filled with the fruit of righteousness</p> <p>Phil 3:9 - have the righteousness that comes through faith</p> <p>I Jn 2:29 - everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him</p> <p>I Jn 3:7 - everyone who practices righteousness is righteous</p> <p>Eph 2:10 - we walk in the good works that God has prepared</p>	<p>Phrase is not biblical</p> <p>Habitual state of carnality - lifestyle</p> <p>If sin is habitual it would have dominion over that person (Ro 6: 14, 16, 18)</p> <p>I Jn 3:9 - whoever is born of God does not sin</p> <p>I Jn 1:5-10 - walk in the light</p> <p>Work of the Spirit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - will cause us to walk in His ways (Ez 36:26-27; Jer 32:39-40; He 8:10) - Regeneration will show by the fruit of our lives - divine character is being worked out in our sanctification process <p>There is a teaching - 3 kinds of man</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) natural man - unsaved child of the world 2) Carnal man - saved but still walks in the flesh 3) Spiritual man - saved and walks in the Spirit in obedience <p>We are in a battle (Eph 6:10-17; I Pet 2:11) - flesh at war with Spirit</p> <p>We are either slaves to sin or slaves to righteousness - but not both (Ro 6)</p>

Romans 8	I Cor 3:1-4	Dangers of Teaching Carnal Christians
<p>In Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set free from the law of sin and death (2) - Don't walk in flesh - we walk according to the Spirit (4) - Set our minds not on things of flesh but on the Spirit (5) - Mindset of flesh is hostile to God (7-8) - Not in the flesh but in the Spirit (9) - Not under obligation to the flesh (12) - We live by the Spirit and put to death the deeds of the flesh (13) - Being led by the Spirit of God (14) 	<p>He is talking to Christians</p> <p>1 - "as to" is used 3 times = comparative adverb = Paul is comparing the brethren saying</p> <p>I can't talk to you as spiritual I will talk to you like men of flesh I will talk to you like an infant</p> <p>They are acting like a bunch of babies - Grow up!</p> <p>Paul is correcting wrong behavior</p> <p>Not teaching about Carnal Christians</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deluding people into thinking that a habitual lifestyle of sin is acceptable to God - We can live in the flesh and there is no ramifications - I can live however I want and still go to heaven - false security (I Jn 3:6; James 2:18) - Misinterpreting Scripture - taking an isolated passage - adding words that aren't there, excluding words that are there and coming up with an easy believism - Belittles the Lordship of Christ - Goal of every Christian should be to grow up in the Lord to walk in a manner pleasing to Him (I Peter 3:18; Jn 14:15; Eph 2:8-10; Col 1:10) - A true believer will be convicted in his heart if approached and talked to about being carnal (Rom 12:1-2) - Scripture tells us that there has to be fruit of our redemption (Gal 2:16; James 2:12-16) - We have been made as new creations - how then can we live the old life style (II Cor 5:17)