

WHAT KIND OF SAVED PERSON ARE YOU?

10-22-95

TEXT: I CORINTHIANS 3:1-4

Intro:

A.

*saved people*

- \*Paul addressed the Corinthians as brethren in verse one of the text.
- \*He refers to two kinds of saved people.
- \*There is a carnal saved person.
- \*There is a spiritual saved person.
- \*The carnal saved person is a babe in Christ.
- \*This doesn't refer to the length of time a person has been saved.
- \*It refers to their progress in the Christian life.

B.

*v33 "For ye are yet carnal"*

- \*Paul said he couldn't speak to them as spiritual, but as carnal.
- \*As you study this book (I Corinthians) you will see why they were carnal.
- \*They were divided, envious, striving, immoral, and unscriptural in doctrine.

C.

- \*I want to ask you, what kind of saved person are you?
- \*Are you a spiritual saved person?
- \*Are you a carnal saved person?
- \*The Lord knows and He wants you to know.

I. YOU MAY BE A CARNAL SAVED PERSON. -

*CHARACTERISTICS OF CARNAL SAVED*

\*As a result:

a. You may be FEEBLE.

1)

- \*The word feeble means weak.
- \*All of us are weak at times.
- \*All of us need the Lord's strength to be strong.
- \*There are some people who seem to be weak all of the time.
- \*You have to constantly help, feed, look after, and give attention to a babe.
- \*Paul said the Corinthians were babes in Christ.
- \*He had to talk to them and deal with them as babes, instead of spiritual mature people.

2)

- \*The reason why some people are always weak is found in John 15:5:  
"I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: For without me ye can do nothing."
- \*Some of God's people haven't learned this truth yet.
- \*When we acknowledge our weakness, Jesus can make us strong. -See II Cor. 12:9

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**b. You may be FICKLE.**

- \*Fickle means lack of steadfastness, constancy, or stability.
- \*Carnal saved people are fickle.
- \*This involves going thru a drastic change in a short period of time.
- \*Some saved people are on fire on day and cold as an ice cube the next.
- \*Some go from giving all to God in one service to holding out all the next service.
- \*Some are convicted Bible students today and next month wonder if God exists at all.
- \*Paul wanted the Ephesians to be grounded.
- \*In Eph. 4:14 Paul told the church at Ephesus:  
"That we hence forth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."

*Evangelist  
Comes to town  
You get  
a high  
Spiritual  
high for  
a day*

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**c. You may be FLESHLY.**

- \*Fleshly means you live a wordly type life in contrast to a spiritual life.
- \*You may be more interested in pleasure, passion, pride, and position rather than the Lord and His service.
- \*Paul charged the Corinthians with three sins.
- \*They were envying, striving, and divided.
- \*Carnality will be at the bottom of envy, strife, and division.
- \*The Apostle John wrote in I John 2:15:  
"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."
- \*Jesus warns us in Matthew 13:22 & Luke 8:14 that the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches, and the pleasures of life choke the word.

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**d. You may go by FEELINGS.**

- \*Many saved people try to serve the Lord and do His work according to their feelings. *Charasmetics - outward manifestation Tongues etc. experience based on*
- \*They will work for the Lord and serve Him if they feel like it.
- \*Personal emotional feelings should never be the basis for our ~~service~~ *service* to the Lord.
- \*Feelings aren't worth a dime.
- \*You can feel saved today and you can feel lost tomorrow.
- \*Service to God should be rendered out of responsibility to God motivated by the truth, taught and instilled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.
- \*Many preachers, deacons, church leaders, teachers, etc., serve God faithfully as they struggle with their feelings.
- \*My salvation, call to the ministry, and service to God cannot be based upon feelings.
- \*They must be based upon the truth, the word of God.

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**e. You may be FORGETFUL.**

- \*Some saved people so soon forget what they were and where they were when God saved them by His grace.
- \*Some forget the tender love, mercy, compassion, forgiveness, and grace God extended to them in saving their souls.
- \*Some forget God's Word, His services, and His purpose in saving them.
- \*The Bible is full of admonitions to remember.
- \*Some forget the promises they made to the Lord.
- \*Some forget the surrendering of their lives to the Lord in the past.

*Christians  
remember  
Eph 2:8-9  
but forget  
v. 10*

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**f. You may be FRUSTRATED.**

- \*Even saved people can get confused and mixed up and can even mess up.
- \*Troubles are varied and many and daily experienced.
- \*You can feel the pressure caused by trouble on the job, in the home, at church, etc.
- \*During such times people get confused and mixed up.
- \*Some begin to doubt if they are saved.
- \*If you feel the frustration continually it could very well be you are carnal.
- \*Paul realized an important in I Cor. 3:6 **"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."** *Paul*

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**g. You may be FRAGILE.**

- \*You may be so fragile others may feel like handling you with kid gloves.
- \*Some of God's people stay upset over little unimportant things.
- \*They argue over petty things.
- \*Psalm 119:165 - **"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."** - Problem with carnal Christian don't love God's word like they should.
- \*Because if they did then they wouldn't be so easily offended.
- \*Sometimes they argue over personal opinion and preference and say they are taking a stand for God's Word.
- \*Paul wrote - **"Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."** - II Tim. 2:3

As result of being a carnal saved person.

**h. You may be FORSAKING.**

- \*Saved people can forsake the Lord.
- Paul wrote, **"For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world."** -2 Tim. 4:10.
- \*You can turn and walk away from the Lord just like His Disciples.
- \*You can follow afar off just like Peter and the other Apostles.
- \*It breaks my heart to know of saved people who are not serving the Lord.
- \*Some are backslidden and even justify their condition.
  
- \*It is very possible that you may be a carnal saved person.
- \*If you are feeble, fickle, fleshly, going by feelings, are forgetful, frustrated, fragile, and forsaken.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF

### II. YOU CAN BE A SPIRITUAL SAVED PERSON. -

\*Paul wrote the Corinthians and said he couldn't write to them as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal.

\*He points out the possibility of spirituality.

\*As a saved person we are to be spiritually minded.

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

#### a. You can be FAITHFUL.

\*A spiritual person is faithful.

\*Paul wrote, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." - I Cor. 4:2.

\*We are to be faithful to God.

\*We are to be faithful to God's Word.

\*We are to be faithful to one of the Lord's churches.

\*Moses, Joshua, Caleb, and Aaron were faithful and called upon the Jewish people to obey the Lord when the whole multitude was about to stone them because they wanted to go back to Egypt.

\*Stephen was faithful to God when he preached God's Word and was stoned to death.

\*Malachi wrote - "Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name." Mal. 3:16.

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

#### b. You can be FRUITFUL.

\*A spiritual person is fruitful.

\*Jesus said in John 15:5 - "I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

\*We are to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ - according to II Pe. 3:18.

\*We will grow by reading God's Word, receiving God's Word (listening to sound preaching and teaching), and reforming to God's Word.

\*Fruit is borne as we live God's Word.

\*When saved people are spiritual you can see the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. - See Gal. 5:22-23.

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

#### c. You can be FEARFUL.

\*Fear means to be afraid of and respect.

\*The verse and context will determine which meaning applies to a verse.

\*Respect for God and being afraid of God go hand in hand.

\*It is written of Job (1:1), "...and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil."

\*Moses had respect unto the recompense of the reward - SEE Heb. 11:26.

*100 years ago  
we saved ~~the~~ feared  
and more than  
3 saved people  
today*

- \*You need to respect the Lord.
- \*You need to reverence Him.
- \*You need to be afraid of Him.
- \*The sin of our day among the lost and saved is no one fears the Lord.
- \*A spiritual person will respect and reverence the Lord and His Word.

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

**c. You can be FITFUL.**

- \*A Spiritual person will be strong and spiritually fit.
- \*Listen to the challenge given to Joshua.
- \***SEE Joshua 1:9**
- \*You must be spiritually fit to fight the good fight of faith.
- \***SEE 2 Tim. 2:3,4.**
- \*Spiritual exercise, diet, and rest, and a healthy outlook is needed.
- \*Study God's word, pray, confess your sins, go to church, and trust the Lord.
- \*This will keep you spritually fit.
- \*The Lord can make us strong as He did Paul. - **SEE II Cor. 12:9**

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

**d. You can be FORGIVING.**

- \*A spiritual person is forgiving.
- \*Paul wrote - **SEE Col. 3:13.**
- \*A spiritual person is kind, forgiving, and tenderhearted toward others - **See Eph. 4:32.**
- \*The Lord forgives you as you forgive others. - **See Mt. 6:14-15.**
- \*You are to forgive others in the same manner God forgives you.
- \*The ugly sin of unforgiveness is eating away like a cancer at our homes, churches, communities, and various personal relationships to others.
- \*Jesus spoke these words to Peter about forgiveness, "...I say not unto thee, until seven times: but, until seventy times seven." - **Mt. 18:22**

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

**e. You can be FREE.**

- \*A spiritual person is free.
- \*As a saved person I have the greatest and purest form of freedom.
- \*Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."  
**John 8:32.**
- \*Jesus also said, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." - **John 8:36**
- \*Paul wrote, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free." - **Gal. 5:1.**
- \*We are free from worries, fear, failure, falsehood, foes, future, and filthiness.
- \*I am free not to live the way I want to.
- \*Paul speaks about the limitation of the Christian liberty - **SEE I Cor. 10:23.**
- \*I am free to live for the Lord, not because I have to, but because I want to.
- \*With precious freedom comes grave responsibilities.

As result of being a spiritual saved person.

**f. You can be a FRIEND.**

\*A spiritual person is a friend.

\*You can be a friend to that lost person and that saved person.

\*A true friend will have your best interest at heart

\*With a lost person that would sharing the gospel with him ,telling him how to be saved.

\*With a saved person that would be encouraging them to live for the Lord.

\*You can have no better friend than a saved person sincerely trying to live for the Lord.

\*The ministry has many heartaches, hurts, and humbling experiences, but one thing that is encouraging to God's man and His family are those real true precious friends that you make for a life time.

**CONCLUSION:**

**A.** The Lord wants us to search our hearts.

\*What kind of saved person are you?

\*Which class do you fit in?

\*How miserable is the carnal saved person.

\*How contented and satisfied is the spiritual saved person.

\*You were saved to worship, fellowship, and serve the precious Lord.

\*Only a spiritual life will satisfy you and God.

**B.** May we pray for one another as we seek to allow God to have His way.

\*May we heed Paul's advise in Colossians 3:2.

**\*\*Set your affection on the things above, not on things on the earth.\*\***

-PLEA

-PRAY

-INVITATION