

TWO SIDES TO CARNALITY

In our lesson text, Paul contrasted spiritual believers to carnal believers. The Greek word for spiritual is pneumatikos. However, Paul used two different suffixes with the Greek word sarx to describe the carnal believer.

In 1 Cor.3:1, Paul used the suffix (inos) with sarx (sarkinos). However, in 1 Cor.3:3, Paul used the suffix (ikos) with sarx (sarkikos).

Paul used these two different Greek suffixes to describe the TWO SIDES TO CARNALITY.

This lesson will study six aspects of the TWO SIDES TO CARNALITY as taught by Paul in 1 Cor.3:1-3.

1. Paul used the Greek comparative particle (hos) three times to show the negative effect of carnality upon spirituality. They are all found in 3:1.

“And I, brethren (believers), could not (dunamai/ a.p.ind ouk/ unable) speak (laleo/ a.a.infin/ communicate BD) to you

- as (hos) to spiritual men (pneumatikos)
- but as (alla hos) to men of flesh (sarkinos),
- as (hos) to babes (nepios) in Christ.”

Sarkinos carnality hindered Paul from communicating bible doctrinal for spiritual growth.

2. The primary doctrinal point that Paul is teaching is that the great hindrance to spirituality is carnality.

However, the specific doctrinal point is that carnality has two problem sources. This is taught by the use of two different Greek suffixes with the word sarx.

The suffix (inos) with sarx emphasizes the material of carnality (lust of OSN) (Gal.5:16-17). It emphasizes one source of the three categories of personal sins (MAS; S/T; and OS) (Rom.13:13-14).

The other source is introduced with the suffix (ikos) with sarx emphasizing the characteristics of carnality **Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD)**. It emphasizes a pattern and history of specific personal sins.

3. The sarkinos carnal believer is one who is walking (peripateo/ manner of life/ lifestyle) the (flesh) Old Sin Nature (OSN) Gal.5:16-17; 1 John 1:9).

He is a believer who is struggling with the issue of gratification lust of the **Old Sin Nature (OSN)** resulting in personal sin (James 1:14-15).

Paul refers to him as a babe (nepios) or spiritually immature believer (in Christ).

4. However a different suffix is used in 1 Cor.3:1 with sarx (ikos). The sarkikos carnal believer is one who is engaged in Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD).

Sarkikos emphasizes the characteristics of the carnality as the pattern of Mental Attitude Sin (MAS) or Sins of the Tongue (ST) or Overt Sin (OS) behavior. This is reflected in our passage by the sins of jealousy and strife.

“For you are **still** (eti) fleshly (sarkikos) **for since** (hopou) there is jealousy and strife among you,

- are you not (ouchi/ yes you are) fleshly (sarkikos)
- and are you not walking (peripateo/ p.a.ind/ manner of life) like (kata+acc/ according to the norms and standards of) mere men (anthropos/ OMCD) (yes you are)? “ (3:3)

5. Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) is identified by a pattern of habitual sarkikos sin in the Christian Way of Life (CWL) (3:3).

This is a life style known as conformity to the world in Rom.12:2.

In spite of knowing the doctrines of spirituality and carnality and confession of sin, they still had a pattern regarding specific sin. This is characterized by sarkikos carnal behavior and a worldly life style regarding certain area of sins.

6. You must replace the perceptive lie of Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) that keeps you walking like mere men with the alternative bible doctrinal truth (Eph.4:22-24; Rom.12:2).

If you want to get rid of this in your life, realize that this pattern of **Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD)** sin behavior is attached to some perceptive lie associated with a painful experience in your past which is **STILL** part of your life.

You must replace the lie with the truth to change from **Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) conformity to New Man Divine Viewpoint (NMDV) transformation.**

Behavior works off beliefs – “For as he thinks within himself, so he is.” (Prov.23:7)

“So that your trust may be in the Lord, I teach you today, even you.” (Prov.22:19)