

There is Hope Radio
5-11-25-Transcript
Carnal Christians
PreacherRichD

All advice and counsel is given for informational purposes only. *There is Hope Radio* is sponsored by Saturate Arkansas. Saturate Arkansas has its goal to get the gospel of Jesus Christ into every household in Arkansas. Would you like to see the gospel go into every home in your city at no cost to you? If so, learn more about Saturate Arkansas at creatingfutures.org/saturate-arkansas. Go to creatingfutures.org/saturate-arkansas to learn more and to obtain free gospel materials.

Your radio host is the Let's Get Real PreacherRichD of Creating Futures.

The title of today's broadcast is titled Carnal Christians. Is there such a thing? Is there such a thing as a carnal or worldly Christian? If there is, is that how you want to be identified as? This is my friend Jim. He lives the life of a carnal Christian.

Before we tackle this topic, what is the meaning of the word carnal?

Carnal means

1. Relating to or giving to crude bodily pleasures and appetites. For example, gluttony and other carnal activities. 2. Relating to physical, especially sexual needs and activities. 3. Marked by sexuality. 4. Worldly.

So what is carnal behavior? To be carnal means to be focused on earthly, fleshly desires rather than spiritual matters. It involves living according to human instincts and impulses, often leading to behaviors that are contrary to God's will. Embracing a carnal mindset can hinder spiritual growth and connection with God. Just based upon the definition of the word carnal, it should be clear that a Christian certainly should not be a carnal Christian.

Before we look to see what the Bible has to say about carnality and living a worldly life, I want to say that there is a big difference between battling sinful desires and turning oneself over to them. All of us, whether Christian or not, will have times where we are enticed by sin and may struggle with sinful desires. We may get captured at times by the sin that easily entangles us. That is much different than willfully, on an ongoing basis, walking in sin with no desire to turn away from it.

So here's some Bible verses addressing carnality and worldliness.

Romans 8:6 states, *For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

In other words, having a carnal worldly mind leads to destruction. Romans 8:8 states, Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. If you're claiming to be a Christian and not living a carnal life, be aware it is not pleasing to God. In fact, God hates carnality.

Galatians 5:24, *And those who belong to Jesus Christ have crucified the flesh with his passions and desires.*

If you're not crucifying the flesh, but instead willfully, on an ongoing basis, feeding the flesh, are you truly a Christian?

1 Corinthians 3:1 states, *This is Apostle Paul speaking, And I, brethren, could not speak to you as spiritual people, but as the carnal, as the babes in Christ.*

Apostle Paul addresses the Corinthians as brethren, but says instead of being spiritual, they're being carnal babes in Christ. So one can be a carnal Christian, but should not be carnal. But before you think you're getting a free pass to live a carnal, worldly life and go to heaven, listen to this warning in Galatians 5.

Galatians 5:17-21 states, *For the desires of the deeds of the flesh are against the spirit, and the desires of the spirit are against the flesh. For these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you're led by the spirit, you're not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident, sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Listen to what that passage says, it makes it clear that if your identity, your lifestyle is to live a life obedient to fleshly desires, you will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Our last verse is Titus 2:11-14 *For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works.*

If you're not zealous to do good works, if you're not living a godly life, if you're not renouncing ungodliness and worldly passions, are you truly born again?

By the way, I want to mention that all these Bible verses and the transcript of this radio show can be found by going to creatingfutures.org/thereishope That is creatingfutures.org/thereishope.

Well, I have some questions to ask you. Does the grace of God rule your life or sinful passions? Is your life identified by who you know, Jesus, or by the sin you cherish and refuse to repent of? You need to ask yourself, are you truly born again? Do you truly have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ? Do you have the Holy Spirit living within you and taking control of your life?

Listen to me very closely. If you're claiming to be a Christian and at the same time publicly mocking, name-calling, labeling, insinuating, speaking half-truths, gossiping, spreading rumors and lies, claiming to know the heart and motives of individuals, intentionally causing division and hatred and strife, you are either a carnal, roller Christian or you're not born again. You need to repent. You need to get right with God. It would be a good idea, if those things are representing your life, they are a reflection of who you are, what you do, your behavior, it'd be a good idea for you to go back and read Galatians 5, 17-21 yourself. And then ask yourself, are you truly born again? On our website, we also are going to have a link to [Are You Truly Born Again?](#)

Like I do in every broadcast, I'm going to end this broadcast with prayer. Father God, you are a good, good Father. You are a loving Heavenly Father. You love those who are unlovely. You love those who are disobedient. You love those who may manifest the character of Satan. You love those who may or may not be born again. You love them, us, each one of us, so much that you call each of us to repentance, to turn away from sinful behavior. And Lord, we thank you by the power of your Holy Spirit, by your unmerited grace, you give us the ability to gain victory over the sin that so easily entangles us. The answer for us to overcome controlling sin is to receive the free gift of salvation from Jesus Christ and for Jesus to be the Lord of our life, not just our Savior. So I pray that every single person that's hearing this broadcast will have an encounter with your Holy Spirit and have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. Father God, will you transform each and every one of us. Make us more like Jesus. Give us the ability, the power, the grace to have victory over the sin that so easily entangles us. Help us to be a reflection of Jesus Christ. And I pray this in Jesus' name.

Well, I know some of you are not Christians. You don't have any desire to be a Christian. You would call yourself an atheist, agnostic. Maybe you call yourself a deist or maybe you call yourself a pagan. Maybe you call yourself agnostic. You may have all kinds of different identities that you may have, but you're not born-again. You may be of another faith, but you're not a born-again follower of Jesus Christ. But you've listened thus far. So if you've listened thus far, there has to be something where the Holy Spirit's tugging on your heart. So I would challenge you to maybe go on a God hunt. I would challenge you to maybe consider that Christianity is true, that the Bible is true, that there is a person who was the Savior of this world and that he is Jesus Christ, and that you need a born-again, saving relationship with Jesus Christ. If that's you, it is very simple to have that relationship with Christ. You don't have to jump through a bunch of hoops. You don't have to go to church. You don't have to read the Bible. You don't have to do good works. What you need to do is just acknowledge that you're a sinner and you need a Savior.

You can do a simple prayer and just say, God, I know I'm a sinner. I know that I do things I shouldn't do. I know that there's things that control my life. I'm battling sin. I'm struggling with sin. I'm being overcontrolled by sin at times, and I want the victory over it. I want a new life. I want a life that has victory over sin. And so, Jesus, I believe that you died on the cross for my sins. I believe you rose from the grave to conquer sin and death. And I believe that if I ask you to come into my life, to take control of my life, that your Holy Spirit will enter into me, that your Holy Spirit will capture my soul, and that I will become a born-again follower of Jesus Christ, and that you will give me the power and the victory over sin. So, Jesus, I want you to be the Lord of my life. I want you to be my Savior.

If you pray a prayer something like that, your prayer doesn't matter, it is your heart condition that matters. But if that prayer represents your heart condition, then you can have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. And you will know it. There will be a change that takes place within you. It may happen within a moment's time. It may take hours. It may not be a couple days. And then you realize that all of a sudden you're thinking differently. You're seeing life differently. All of a sudden you have a desire to behave and act differently. All of a sudden it seems like there's some victory in your life, that you're not being controlled like you used to be. So I encourage you, if you don't know Jesus Christ, your Lord and Savior, that you do that today.

But before we go off the air, I have a request from you as our listeners. I really need your feedback, whether it's positive or negative. I have some decisions to make. I need to be concerned if I continue to pay for air time to be on the air every Sunday on KFFB 106.1 FM. If you listen to us on the radio, we need your help. We need your support. We need your feedback. If you believe there's hope should stay on the air, let us know. If you believe it needs to go off the air, you can share that too. You can do all this by filling out our online survey. You don't have to share your name. You can go online and fill out the survey.

Or if you really do believe we need to be on the air and you want to make a donation to keep us on the air, either way, just go to creatingfutures.org/thereishope. That is creatingfutures.org/thereishope. If you'd rather not go online, you can share thoughts on this show by calling our toll-free number and leaving a voicemail. You do not have to leave your name to leave that voicemail. Also, if you need prayer, you want prayer, or you would like mentoring that help you to grow in Christ, whatever it is that you may need, maybe you have some questions for us. And again, we take positive and negative feedback also.

All you got to do is call our toll-free line. It's 1-866-WANT-GOD. That is 1-866-WANT-GOD. One more time. 1-866-WANT-GOD, or you can call 1-866-926-8463. That is 1-866-926-8463.

Thank you for listening to There is Hope. Remember, There is Hope. Oh, by the way, I didn't mention it, that if you do go online and fill out the survey or you do leave a voicemail, for every person that does that, we have a free gift. It's a DVD, the Jesus film, or you can download the app on your phone and watch several different movies. All of it's free. Listen, even if you don't fill out the survey.

Thank you for tuning in. You've been listening to PreacherRichD, the radio host of *There is Hope Radio* and the founder of *Creating Futures*.

All advice and counsel given was for informational purposes only. To listen to *There is Hope Radio* podcast, obtain show transcripts, or to keep *There is Hope Radio* on the air, go to creatingfutures.org/thereishope. That's creatingfutures.org/thereishope.

Are You Truly born Again?

<https://standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org/seven-indicators-of-salvation/>