

What Man's Carnality Brings, Part 2 - 1 Corinthians 1:11 - February 16th, 2014

- Today's teaching will be part two of a new series we began last week titled, "What Man's Carnality Brings."
- Two weeks ago back in verses 3-9 we saw the things God's grace brings and starting in verse 10 we saw the things man's carnality brings.
- Namely, it was the divisions that the carnality within this church, brought into the life of this church, and even the Christians in this church.

1. Divisions (Verse 10)

-v10 Paul appeals to them in the name of Jesus to all agree with one another so there's no divisions but instead to unite in mind and thought.

2. Arguments (Verse 11)

(11) My brothers, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you.

- v11 Paul gets more specific when he tells them that some from Chloe's household had informed him that there were quarrels among them.
- This is interesting for a number of reasons not the least of which is that Chloe's household had the spiritual spine to actually confront this.
- I find this interesting because it's a very rare Christian who, having the strength of character and spiritual maturity, will sign their name to it.

Charles Spurgeon - "If we bring a charge, we should be always willing to give our authority for it and mention the name of the accuser. Those who speak against others, and yet will not allow their names to appear, are unworthy of attention."

- I believe those who are bold enough to include their name when confronting an issue, as did Chloe, are a demonstration of their character.
- I'll take it a step further and suggest that it's also a demonstration of their willingness to be part of the solution and not part of the problem.
- To his credit, Chloe apprising Paul of this problem in the church and including his name was evidence of his desire to be part of the solution

- Perhaps you'll indulge me for the remainder of our time together in God's Word as I share with you 10 reasons we are to avoid arguments.

1) It creates carnality in Christian's

1 Corinthians 3:3 NIV You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men?

2) It takes people captive to do Satan's will

2 Timothy 2:23-26 NIV Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. (24) And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. (25) Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, (26) and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

3) It stirs up anger and wrath

Proverbs 15:1 NIV A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

4) It stirs up strife and discord

Proverbs 29:22 NKJV An angry man stirs up strife, And a furious man abounds in transgression.

5) It results in envy, malicious talk, and evil suspicions

1 Timothy 6:4 NIV he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions

6) It blinds people with hypocrisy

Matthew 7:3 NIV "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?"

7) It is unprofitable and useless

Titus 3:9 NIV But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

8) It leads people to more and more ungodliness

2 Timothy 2:16 NIV Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly.

9) It puts people at enmity with God

James 4:1-4 NIV What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? (2) You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. (3) When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. (4) You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

10) It ruins those who listen to it

2 Timothy 2:14 NIV Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen.

- More specifically, when there's carnal quarreling and criticizing about the church in the home, there is potential to ruin those who hear it.
- It's been said that, when some Christian's go home and have their favorite Sunday dinner they don't eat fried chicken, but roast preacher.
- Then they wonder why their children who continue to hear this week in and week out don't want to have anything to do with church or God.
- I'll bring my sermon to a close by simply posing this question, is being argumentative destroying my family, my career, or even my church?