

1st Chattanooga

A STUDY IN 1 CORINTHIANS

Turf Wars

2 Corinthians 2:14-3:4

Pastor Mike Chapman

A turf war is a dispute between rivals over a particular sphere of influence. It is a fight to decide who controls an area. Today, we are going to look at what Paul wrote to the Christians in the city of Corinth about the turf war of the mind.



1 Corinthians 2:14

THE NATURAL PERSON

This is the person without the indwelling Spirit of God within him.

This is our natural-born condition because of indwelling spiritual nature.

Romans 1:28, *Since they considered themselves too high and mighty to acknowledge God, he allowed them to become the slaves of their degenerate minds.* Phillips



1 Corinthians 2:16

THE BORN AGAIN PERSON

This the person who by faith in Christ experiences regeneration.

God by his Spirit literally comes into your soul.

Romans 8:10, *If Christ is in you, your spirit is alive.*

Ephesians 2:4-5, *God has made us alive with Christ.*



SPIRITUAL STRUGGLE

Our new life in Christ is being challenged by the old spiritual depravity in our soul.

Galatians 5:17, The sinful nature and the Spirit are in conflict with each other.

Romans 7:21, 23, When I want to do good, evil is there with me...trying to make me its prisoner.



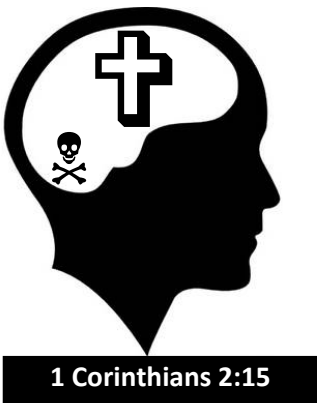
1 Corinthians 3:1-4

THE CARNAL CHRISTIAN

Romans 7:14-20, Sin is my master...I really want to do what is right but I don't do it. Instead I do the very thing I hate...It is sin inside me that makes me do these evil things...This sin within me is doing it.

Romans 7:24, What a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life dominated by sin?

Thank God this is not the final picture. Paul will answer his own question!



1 Corinthians 2:15

THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN

Romans 7:25, Thank God! The answer is Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Romans 6:6, Our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer to be slaves to sin.

Galatians 5:16, Live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Sanctification is the work of God's grace by which followers of Jesus are made able to die more and more to sin and live an increasingly godly life.