The most common phrase of carnal Christians is: "Oh they are so self righteous." This of course is referred to anyone that quotes scripture or says "the Lord says."

True righteousness is doing and saying WHAT the Spirit would have you say or do !!!

John 8:38\* I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.

Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

The biblical definition of self righteousness is of course those that think they are better than others.

Luke 18:11\* The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God,

I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

**BUT** it also includes ALL those that are ruled by their natural emotions, Feel, Smell, Taste, Hear and See and the biggest of these is How things make you <u>FEEL</u>. (carnal)

Before I go any further I had better define carnal Christian, They are people that love the Lord but are ruled by their own emotions, instead of the Spirit. (thus carnal, or fleshly)

Now as a rule, carnal Christians WILL NOT take or listen too sound doctrine of the word, they take everything personal, as a put down and condemnation instead of an encouragement and guideline. You see, the word of God is so we can obtain victory over the carnal flesh. We have been programed from birth to rely on our senses and God did give them to us for self preservation. But that is life in the flesh and not for life after you have been born again.

When one is born again it is a whole new ballgame, why do you think the Lord says: Romans 12:2\* And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

How do we renew our mind? - by reading the word of God, by listening to preaching and testimony's and by reading and discussing writings such as this. But Again, if your carnally minded you probably won't even read it because it will make you FEEL funny. (GET OVER IT)

The Lord Loves us and in no way holds our sin against us BUT he does want us to be victorious over the Flesh, Hell and the Devil. His word is absolutely full of warnings to us of pitfalls in our walk with him, but we do not listen or take heed. A few Scriptures of warnings.

Matthew 7:15\* Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Matthew 10:17\* But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues.

Luke 12:15\* And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

2Corinthians 6:17\* Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

2Timothy 3:5\* Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Now these particular scriptures are referring to the established assemblies and believe me, at least 70% of these are of the spirit of anti-christ. The older traditional denominations teach your saved by GRACE and that is true but they forget about the FAITH.

Ephesians 2:8\* For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
Other denominations teach FAITH, but GRACE is only a byword, others make up their doctrine as it pleases them
Philippians 4:5\* Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

When you try to point out these things that will give the Christian a victorious life in Christ, the carnal Christian will

usually reply "your only trying to bring discord and tear down instead of build up" and my reply to that is, "I will and do not apologies for the word of God, it is not my inspiration, but the Holy Spirit."

2Timothy 3:16\* All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

<u>John 3:11</u>\* Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.

The corner denominational church as we know it, was never meant to be, I am not saying that they are all out to lunch. There are some very good outreaches and some very good teachings on TV if you can overlook their begging for money. 1Thessalonians 5:21\* Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

The main thing that happens when we go by how we feel, is that we do not sin, But we do open the door for Satan to afflict us and the first thing he uses is STRESS. if we do not take authority over him and give it to Jesus, we will continue to reap what we have sown. Then stress brings sickness and failure, just remember there is NOTHING to little or insignificant to give to Jesus. Self righteousness is thinking you can handle it on your own, SORRY Jesus already handled it for you WHY not let him do what he has already done??

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