Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 1

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Introduction

Nowadays, people are focused on physical things that they can see and touch/feel; rather than the spiritual things that are invisible to the natural eyes. Humanity is engrossed with earthly things, rather than the heavenly things; forgetting that they cannot live forever on earth. Mankind is preoccupied with temporal things, instead of eternal things. The present generation is absorbed by worldliness; people are concerned with material values or ordinary life; rather than a spiritual existence that pleases the Lord.

Inasmuch as people have a finite period to use in this world, they should stop using their lifetime carnally; instead they should use it spiritually in a manner that will not make them to end their journeys in hell. Humans should desist from concentrating their interest on rootless things of this world; but strive to use the rest of their natural days on earth to please God. It is time to stop making the vanities of this planet your priority. Make sure that your emphasis is not on carnal things, and you are not being controlled by them; else you will be penalized.

Many do not believe in the existence of God

Most people in the world do not believe in the existence of God, and many are saying 'there is no God.' Satan has blind folded humans to the extent that numerous people neither acknowledge their Maker nor confess His indefeasible sway over the earthlings. It is time for mankind to fear the Lord and honor Him in all their ways, if they want eternal life. The time that the human race has spent doing corruptible deeds and horrible things is

enough; people should stop all their heartless and cruel activities; instead, they should start doing what is right.

Whoever claims to be a child of God must believe in His existence; but abstain from repulsive injustice and abominable iniquities that are rampant in the world. Be informed; our God is alive, and He is the same yesterday, today and He will be the same tomorrow; because He is an unchangeable God. For this reason; stop using the remainder of your lifetime carnally, and reconcile with God before it is too late; because only the foolish people will say there is no God. The Bible confirmed this fact by saying, "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God.' They are corrupt and have done abominable iniquity; there is none who does good." Psalm 53:1. Hence, let your acts demonstrate that you believe in the existence of Almighty God. To prove that you are not a fool; you must be obedient, and utilize your lifetime in a judicious way that is acceptable to God.

Stop following destructive ways: Today many people are following the wrong ways based on contrary doctrines, which prompted people to speak bad things against the way of truth. Countless teachers have compromised; and numerous people are following their shameful ways and lascivious doings; in a manner that is making the true way to be maligned and defamed. Make a difference today; stop following the footsteps of the people who are on the path of destruction. If you do not want to lose your glorious garment; you must eradicate from your journey the satanic façade that is causing multitudes of people to stray; by using your days for the Lord.

If you are not using your lifespan carnally you will not be following the pernicious ways that can make the Holy name of God to be blasphemed. Do not listen to the teachings that can lead you astray, or those that are not in conformity with the teachings of the Holy Bible. This is a wake up call for you to

depart from the destructive path that can make the spiritual eye of the Lord to be bitter towards you, and start using the remainder of your existence to please God; according to the scripture which says, "And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed." <u>2 Peter 2:2.</u> Use the rest of your days in the land of the living to live spiritually, and do the work of God.

Do not follow the people around you to do evil, or pervert justice; instead do what is right and good. Do not stand in the way of justice, and do not take sides with influential people to do wrong; even if everyone else is dishonest; be fair in all your ways. Do not do something that is evil or immoral; because everyone else is doing it. The Bible warned by saying "You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice." <u>Exodus 23:2</u>. Even though the world is corrupt; use the remainder of your lifespan spiritually to please God so that you will inherit the kingdom of heaven.

Beware so that you won't be misled: Beware of people who can mislead you by their actions and reactions. Be cautious of those who can cause you to have a wrong idea about the teachings of the Bible; in order to take advantage of you, or suit their selfish purposes. Do not imitate the so-called Brethren, whose conduct is not in conformity with the instructions of the Lord. The Bible notified us that at the end-time, there will be scoffers who will be seeking to gratify their own unholy desires. We are in the last days, and that is the reason that most people are living according to their ungodly passions.

Nowadays, people whose purpose in life is to satisfy their sinful ambitions and ungodly aspirations are making fun of the truth; and they are laughing at it; according to the scripture which says, "How they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own lusts." Jude 1:18. Immaterial of

what others are doing, use your existence in a manner that will make God to be delighted in you.

Do not emulate the ungodly: Many people have secretly slipped into the midst of the Christians throughout the world; they are perverting the spiritual blessing and favor of God into lawlessness and immorality. They are distorting the grace of God into decadence and wantonness. Countless of these ungodly people have wormed their way into the midst of the Christendom; they are turning the grace of God into a license for debauchery, and they are denying the Messiah by their attitudes. These ungodly people have infiltrated the Churches globally. They pretend to be Believers; but beneath their pious skin are shameless scoundrels. Their behaviors contradict the directives of the Lord, and their acts disown Jesus Christ our Savior. They are using the loving-favor of God to cover up their sins, and they are professing that the grace of God permits us to live immorally.

Flee from the people that debauchery is their trademark, and do not utilize the kindness of God for decadence in any form. You must not emulate those who are using the grace of God as an excuse for licentiousness and lasciviousness; even if they are important figures in your Church. Make sure that your conduct is not against your Maker; instead, use your life to serve Him, so that you will not be doomed.

The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ." <u>Jude 1:4.</u> Never abuse the grace of God like the godless people; but use it correctly, so that it shall be well with you throughout your existence. One of the best things that can happen to the Beloved is for people to praise and glorify God through them. Therefore, avoid conducts/behaviors that can make people to

blaspheme the glorious name of God through you. Surrender your days to the Lord; since you have a limited time to use on earth.

Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 2

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Enough of using your lifespan carnally

Enough is enough; humans should stop living carnally, and do what is just and right. The governments of Nations of the world should stop the violence, plundering, and oppression of their populace. The people in positions of authority in every country should end every form of discrimination; and they should depart from injustice and unrighteousness. These people should cease looting the treasury of their Nations, and stop forceful seizure of real estate from the residents of their State or community. Even the religious leaders should abstain from robbing and cheating people of their valuables; by using religion as a guise to cover up their sinful acts.

The Christians who are supposed to be good examples are being cruel to one another, and they are hurting each other. It is time for the Christendom to be fair in all their ways; in order to put Satan to shame. The Believers should quit bullying and taking advantage of one another; instead they should conduct themselves in a manner that is worth to be emulated; so that the name of the Lord will not be blasphemed. The scripture corroborated this fact by saying "Thus says the Lord God: 'Enough O princes of Israel! Remove violence and plundering, execute justice and righteousness, and stop dispossessing My people,' says the Lord God." <u>Ezekiel 45:9.</u> Turn a new leaf today, and start living in an acceptable way to the Lord.

You are holy to God: The Beloved must realize that they are a holy people; set apart to the Lord, and they are His unique treasure. God has chosen the Believers; from all over the world to be His rare and outstanding possession; according to the Bible

passage which says, "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth." <u>Deuteronomy 7:6, 14:2.</u> For the Christians to remain a precious people to the Lord; they must use the remainder of their days on earth to please the Lord. Believers must conduct themselves in an acceptable way to God; else they will lose their exceptional stature, and become commoners, before Almighty God their Creator.

For this reason, the Beloved must not use their lifetime carnally; or behave like the unbelievers. The born-again must realize that they have had enough of the evil things that the godless people enjoy in the past before they were saved. Therefore, immorality and lusts; together with drunkenness and wild parties; should not entice them anymore. Inasmuch as it is not good for 'a dog to return to his vomit,' then, Christians should stop living indecently and shamelessly; they should desist from any unrestrained behavior and insolent conduct.

<u>Cease walking like the Gentiles:</u> The Believers must not spend the rest of their time here on earth, indulging their physical nature; but in doing the will of God; because their past lifestyle is not good for the special people of God; according to the Book of Peter which says, "For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties and abominable idolatries." <u>1</u> <u>Peter 4:3.</u> Are you ready to do away with your past lifestyle that is filled with ungodly behaviors? Do you know that if you are holding onto your past sinful conducts; it will harm your chances of inheriting the kingdom of heaven? Do you know that unless you let go of your past lustful desires; your sins may not be forgiven? You must refrain from the evil cravings that inspire the Gentiles to commit atrocities.

You are supposed to be a new creation: Since you have wasted enough time in the past, when you are still in the world doing nauseating things; let 'bygone be bygone,' and begin to live a spiritual life that is acceptable to God; because those who are grafted in Jesus by faith are new creatures. Whoever that is joined to Christ is reborn by the Holy Spirit. Do you believe that spiritual awakening brings a new life? If you believe; then abstain from your former way of life, when you are still living carnally in the world; because you are a new creature; according to the Book of Corinthians which says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; Old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17. Since anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person, then let go of your old way of living; because you have been given a fresh start. To prove your faithfulness as a Christian who is united with the Messiah; you must flee from your past life that does not give glory to God; because you are now a new and changed person.

<u>Be ready to be rewarded:</u> Christians should come to terms that they will be rewarded for all their deeds, and the Lord Jesus Christ who will reward them will come suddenly, when people are unprepared. The day of the Lord will come unannounced; when people least expect. The return of the Lord will be a surprise; according to the scripture which says, "For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night." <u>1</u> <u>Thessalonians 5:2.</u> Since the coming of the Lord will be unexpected; are you ready? Do you think you will be rewarded or judged when Christ returns? Please rectify your ways before it is too late.

Christians must do away with their past lifestyle that is making the name of God to be blasphemed; in order to be rewarded. The Beloved must be ready, and act according to the instructions of the Lord; by living a spiritual godly life. Since the Son of Man is coming at a moment when people do not anticipate, are you

ready? Happiness is assured for whoever prepares for the coming of the Son of Man; according to the Bible passage which says, "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." <u>Luke 12:40.</u> Don't be lazy, or careless; instead, be prepared; because when you don't expect, Christ will show up.

Do you know that your past activities can come back to haunt you, if you are not careful? Give up your past lifestyle, and ditch your old behaviors; else Satan will rob you of your glorious crown. You must be rooted in the righteous path; if you don't want the darkness to steal the crown that you will be given as a reward, when Christ returns. Beware, so that the pleasures and vanities of this world will not make you to lose your glorious crown. Continue to be strong in Christianity faith, so that no one will deprive you of your victory prize (crown); by leading you to renounce the faith. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown." <u>Revelation 3:11.</u> You must quit using the rest of your days carnally; if you don't want Satan to take your glorious crown.

Remember that you will soon be rewarded for your efforts and deeds; therefore, cease living carnally. Jesus is coming to render to each one, what his/her actions and work merit. With the knowledge that you will be repaid for what you have done; don't you think the time has come for you to stop living carnally like the ungodly? Whether you like or not; either you believe or not; you will be recompensed proportional to your acts and conducts; according to the Book of Revelation which says, "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me to give to every one according to his work." <u>Revelation 22:12.</u> Start living spiritually; because you will be paid in full, for your life's work.

Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 3

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Depart from immorality

Immorality is rampant throughout the world; despite the fact that the word of the Lord is established at every 'nook and cranny.' <u>Nowadays, humans are unprincipled and dishonest, and they are</u> <u>glorifying unethical and wrongful things.</u> Cruelty and wickedness is the norm of the day in the Nations of the world; because people lack the fear of God. Most people enjoy doing evil things and detest doing good things; because they are carnally minded. Therefore, it is important and necessary for everyone to abstain from immorality by not using the remainder of their days carnally.

Every form of immorality is destroying the fabric of human societies; and it is like a cancer that has spread to every aspect of human life. Most people don't have a conscience, and they are inconsiderate in a manner that is putting the human race in danger. The apostles cautioned the people of Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia against these vices by saying, "That you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell." <u>Acts 15:29</u>. Are your conducts dishonorable? You must never behave in an unscrupulous way, if you want to progress spiritually.

<u>Do not misuse your body:</u> Though immorality is the violation of the commandments or the statutes of the Lord; however, we will pay attention to the most common form of immorality; which is sexual immorality. Humans need to realize that our body is not meant for sexual immorality. People are not supposed to do indecent things with their bodies; but use them for the Lord, who is in charge of their bodies. Your body is not for sexual

promiscuity; but for the Lord to save, sanctify and raise it again; because of the sacrifice of the cross. Stop defiling, or selling your body in any way or form; instead use it to serve the Lord; according to the scripture which says, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body." <u>1 Corinthians 6:13.</u> Use your body to honor the Lord who cares for your body by living spiritually. Since your body is an integral part of Jesus Christ, why not cease using your days carnally?

For this reason, shun sexual looseness in any form; whether thought or behavior; whether visual or written. Avoid sexual immorality; because your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you, and you are not the owner of your body; you have been bought at a price. Do not violate the sacredness of your body; instead stay away from impurity in thought, word or deed; according to the Book of Corinthians which says, "Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexually immorality sins against his own body ..." <u>Corinthians 6:18-20.</u> It is time to stop using your body for worldliness; but use it to serve God.

Immorality is defiling the Church: There are various incidents of immorality in the churches across the globe. Many of the leaders of Christianity are gloating or relishing in sexual immorality; such that is condemned even among the unbelievers. Today, many Christians are involved in nefarious activities, and depravity is flourishing among the Brethren. Virtue is lost among the Christendom, and the churches are behaving in a shameless manner, that is making the name of God to be blasphemed among the Gentiles.

Today, Christians are doing nauseating things that are rare and intolerable among the pagans. Many so-called Believers are

behaving worse than the people who do not know God. Report of scandalous sex within the Church of God is too much; so, this is a wake up call, and 'all hands must be on deck' to eliminate sexual immorality in the Churches of God. The Bible testified to this fact by saying, "it is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as it not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife!" <u>1</u> Corinthians 5:1. Time has come for Christians to purify themselves for the Lord, and be pacesetters.

Immorality must be judged: Whether we like it or not, God will judge the immoral people. Whether we believe it or not, immorality will be judged. Do not associate with the unchaste people; if you don't want to share out of their guilt, but rebuke and correct them. Be warned; do not associate with any professing Christian who is known to be an impure man or woman; or fraudster; or base; or miscreant. Dissociate from people who are leading immoral lives; immaterial of their position in the church; according to the epistle of Paul to the Corinthians which says, "I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people." <u>1 Corinthians 5:9.</u> If you don't want to be judged; disengage from people who claim to be Christians who are promiscuous, or crooked, or spiritual phonies who have flipped on/with God.

Sanctify yourself for God: God wants people to sanctify themselves, and they should not defile themselves with the carnal things of this world. The best thing that the Believers can do is to dedicate themselves to the Lord, and live a Christ-likelife throughout their existence. It is the duty of the Christians to consecrate themselves and be holy in order to be admitted into the Glorious Home. The Beloved must live a spiritual and holy life; in order to please God who set them apart. Since Christians have been chosen to be the people of the Lord; it is a necessity for the Christians to stop using their days carnally, but be holy;

so that they will be in good standing before God.

The Bible confirmed this fact by saying, "And you shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you shall be Mine." Leviticus 20:26. If God is holy; don't you think you must abstain from worldliness and be holy? Do you know that if you continue to live carnally; you have broken the commandment of God? To prove that you are obedient; you must not defile yourself, but live spiritually. For this reason, sanctify yourself and start living spiritual holy life; according to the directive of Almighty God your Creator. As it is written, "Consecrate yourself therefore, and be holy, for I am the Lord your God." Leviticus 20:7. Are you ready to surrender yourself totally to God? Are you prepared to set yourself apart and be holy in this sinful world? We pray that God will strengthen you to live a life that pleases Him, in Jesus name.

Inasmuch as God's will is that your life must be dedicated to Him; then, refrain from your nefarious activities. Since God wants people to be holy; let everyone depart from sexual immorality. Anyone who desires to inherit the kingdom of heaven must live a holy life, and keep away from all sexual vice. God's plan is to make people holy, and that entails a clean cut with indecency. Therefore, humans should learn to control their bodies; every one should keep his/her body pure and treat it with respect, and never regard it as an instrument for self-gratification, like the Gentiles who lack the knowledge of God. The Book of Thessalonians confirmed this statement by saying, "For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality." 1 Thessalonians 4:3. Are you ready to be separated from worldliness and set apart from sin? Do not forget that God wants you to live a pure life, and keep yourself from sexual promiscuity.

Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 4

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Contrary behaviors is an abomination

Every carnal behavior is an abomination before the Lord; therefore, the earthlings must stop behaving in carnal ways. The Lord detests the arrogant people who overestimate themselves and underestimate others. God cannot stand people with lying tongues, and those who kill the innocent physically, or spiritually. Our Maker cannot condone the hearts that manufacture wicked thoughts and plot evil schemes; together with those who are quick to do wrong by racing down a spiritual wicked track. The Lord hates false witnesses who lie by telling half-truths, and those who spread discord among Brethren through rumors.

The Bible attested to this fact by saying; "These six things the Lord hates, yes the seven are an abomination to Him: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren." <u>Proverbs 6:16-18.</u> Are you looking down on others? Do you conspire to kill the innocent? Are you planning evil in your mind? Do you have a zeal for evil? Are you a deceitful and dishonest witness? Do you like causing conflict among relatives? Have you ever spread/sow quarrels in your community?

If your answer/s to the aforementioned questions is Yes; then you are living a carnal life that can make you end your journey in hell. If you do not want to spend your eternity in Satan's camp, you must never cheat or deceive others; because it is an abomination to the Lord. Honesty and righteousness are required to live a spiritual life that pleases the Lord. Hence, you must not cheat; or deceive; or exploit; or oppress other people.

The Bible cautioned about these contrary behaviors by saying, "You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a heavy and a light. You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small. You shall have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure, that your days may be lengthened in the land which the Lord your God is giving you. For all who do such things, and who behave unrighteously, are an abomination to the Lord your God." Deuteronomy 25:13-16. It can be deduced from the passage that those who act unjustly without personal integrity are utterly repulsive to God, and such people are using their lifetime carnally.

The secret to enjoy a prolonged life and prosperity is to live a spiritual life that is acceptable to God; so, are you acting unfairly? Are you dealing with others dishonestly? You need to stop cheating and deceiving others; else you also will be deceived. For this reason, abstain from what is evil; detest all ungodliness, and do not tolerate wickedness; but hold tight to everything that is good; according to the Book of Romans which says, "Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good." <u>Romans 12:9.</u> Have a sincere love for others and depart from living a carnal lifestyle.

Do not be enticed by evil things

Nowadays, many people would rather do evil than good, and tell lies than speaking the truth. Wickedness and deceit is rampant among mankind. Today, the majority of the people in the world love wrong more than right, and falsehood more than speaking the truth. Humans prefer darkness to light, and love the destructive way more than the way of life; to the extent that some of them will be boasting of the evil deeds. Why do people glory in what is evil? Humans should think deeply, and embrace the eternal/powerful word of God, that can make them to overcome the contrary attitude, that is making them to love what is bad

more than what is good. The Book of Psalm confirmed this fact by saying, "You love evil more than good, lying rather than speaking righteousness." <u>Psalm 52:3.</u> Hence, let us shun every form of evil; in accordance with the directives of the Lord.

Inasmuch as our God hates, evil and His holy eyes cannot behold evil; it is time for humans to stop planning evil against their neighbors. People should stop plotting harm against one another. The Christians should cease thinking, or imagining evil or injury in their hearts against their neighbors. The Believers should desist from making false promises, and they must not love perjury. The Beloved should not give false testimony; instead they should hate lying, injustice and violence; according to the Bible passage which says. "Let none of you think evil in your heart against your neighbor; and do not love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate, says the Lord." Zechariah 8:17.

Learn from the experience of the people of Israel who displeased the Lord; in a manner that turned a 40 days journey to 40 years in the wilderness. Many of them died in the wilderness; because their lack of self-control led to disobedience which led to death. The Bible chronicled this event by saying, "But with most of them God was not pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the extent that we should not lust after evil things as they lusted" <u>1 Corinthians 10:5-6</u>. This occurrence is meant to serve as a deterrent; so that people will not desire evil things. The same fate will happen to whoever sets his/her heart on evil things; so, do not desire or crave for evil things, like the people of Israel did. These events serve as a warning and admonition for us not to covet, or lust after carnal things. We pray that you will be knowledgeable enough to do what is good and right, in Jesus name.

Conduct yourself in a godly manner

Christians should not be preoccupied with materialistic things. They should not be obsessed with amassing more material things, and they should not succumb to the love of money that Lucifer is using to lead numerous people astray. Believers must let their character and inner nature be free from the love of money; they should shun greed, and be financially ethical. The moral disposition of the Beloved must be free of avarice, lust and craving for earthly possessions; instead they should be satisfied with what they have; according to the scripture which says, "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" <u>Hebrew 13:5.</u> Hold on to the promise of God, and don't be controlled by the love of money; if you want to inherit the kingdom of God.

For this reason, it is inevitable for Christians to be set apart from the world by their godly character and moral courage. The Beloved must be holy in all their conduct and entire way of life; to prove that they are obedient. Whoever wants to please and emulate God must be holy; in every aspect of his/her life. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct." <u>1 Peter 1:15.</u> It is time to let yourself be pulled into a way of life shaped by God's life, and blazing with holiness; if you want to live forever. Inasmuch as an iota of uncleanness cannot come into the presence of God; you must keep yourself holy, in order to be glorified and reign eternally in the kingdom of heaven.

Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 5

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Beware of false or demonic doctrines

The Bible stated that the time is coming, when people will not tolerate sound doctrine that challenges them with God's truth. The time has come, and it is happening throughout the world; people cannot endure accurate instruction of God that can make them perfect. Do you have patience for the wholesome instruction of the Lord? Are you listening to the healthy teaching that can make you inherit the kingdom of heaven? You must put up with and endure the solid true teaching; if you want to be worthy of the Glorious Home. Do not imitate countless people around the globe; who accumulate false teachers to support their erroneous cravings.

It is time for people who want their ears tickled with something pleasing and gratifying to repent; and embrace sound doctrine before it is too late. Are you one of the self-centered people that gather teachers, who say what you want to hear? Have you chosen to satisfy your own liking and foster your desires; instead of listening to good teaching? Is catering for your passions, and itching to hear what you like, the purpose of collecting false teachers? Do you accumulate only the teachers who will please you, and meet your needs? The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers, and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables." <u>2</u> <u>Timothy 4:3-4.</u>

Is your church among those that collect teachers who will ponder their desires; because it wants something to tickle its

fancies? Is your church one of those churches that turned their backs on the truth, and chased mirages? Are the members of your church turning their ears away from the truth, and wandering off to accept the unacceptable? Do you think that the congregation of your church eagerly listens to senseless stories, and prefer them to the truth? This is a wake up call for the Christendom; because most people across the world are now rejecting the truth; instead they are paying attention to fictions and they are chasing after myths.

False teachings arouse contrary desires

Nowadays, the false teachings that are rampant in the world are causing lustful desires. The contrary teachings that are prevalent everywhere are inducing perverse conducts; at every 'nook and cranny' of the globe. People are tempted when they are dragged away, and enticed to commit sin by their worldly desire. Every person is tempted and baited; by his/her lustful desire. The false teachings arouse passions; which then allow Satan to use their cravings to tempt people; in order to lure them away from the presence of God, and put them in bondage. The Book of James confirmed this fact by saying, "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed." James 1:14.

Absolve God from your temptations: You must live a spiritual life that pleases God, why? Because false teachings induce contrary desires; and temptation comes from our lustful desires, which entices us and drag us away into captivity. So, abstain from carnal lifestyle; in order to minimize your temptations, and escape the ensnarement of the Devil. Therefore, do not let anyone under pressure who gives in to evil, say; 'God is trying to trip me up.' And anyone must not say, when he/she is tempted, 'God is tempting me.' God is impervious to evil, and puts evil in no one's way. Since God has no dealings with evil, and does not Himself tempt anyone; then Almighty God should be absolved of

our temptations and the consequences. The blame should be put squarely on the pull of our inward sinful desires; which can be enormously attractive but fatal.

It must be noted that your Maker is not responsible for your temptation and the consequences; rather your carnal lifestyle is to be blamed. God must be exonerated; because the temptation to give in to evil comes from us and only us. We have no one to blame but the leering, seducing flare-up of our own lust. Our contrary desires lead to sin, and then the sin grows and brings death. Our lustful desires make us to sin, by giving birth to sinful actions. When sin is allowed to grow; it will leave us dead, by the time sin is finished with us; according to the Bible passage which says, "Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is fully-grown, brings forth death." James 1:15.

You will realize your desires if: The best way for anyone to realize his/her good desires is to enjoy serving the Lord. If you take pleasure in the Lord, He will certainly grant you the petitions of your heart. God will give you, your requests and pressing needs; if and only if, you abstain from living carnally; according to the scripture which says, "Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart." <u>Psalm 37:4.</u> You can only get insurance with God; If you are using your days spiritually, and continue doing good deeds.

Therefore, do good instead of evil; and do not use your lifespan carnally; so that you will live to be as old as trees, and enjoy what you have earned. You will not build for another person to inhabit, and you will not plant for another to eat; instead you will enjoy the work of your hands; according to the Book of Isaiah which says, "They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." <u>Isaiah</u> 65:22. If you want to live a long life and prosper; use your lifetime

judiciously. For your possessions not to be confiscated, you must delight yourself in God. If you want the grace that will grant you time and good health, to enjoy your hard won gains; cease living carnally.

Desist from carnal lifestyle

Brethren in the Lord; we beg you not to surrender to evil desires that Satan is using to fight against you. We urge you to avoid worldly desires that can make you spend your eternity in hell. Inasmuch as humans are temporary residents and foreigners on earth; we are warning you to keep away from dishonorable desires that wage war against your life. We implore you to abstain from the passions of the flesh that can make you to be entrapped by the Devil. Do not indulge your ego at the expense of your soul; instead live an exemplary life in your community; so that your actions will refute their prejudices; according to the Book of Peter which says, "Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." <u>1 Peter 2:11.</u>

Are you ready to keep away from the desires of your corrupt nature? Do not give in to bodily passions, and refrain from the desires of your lower nature; in order to please the Lord: because if your mind is ruled by your desires you will die; but if your mind is ruled by the Holy Spirit, you will have eternal life. If you are carnally minded, it means your sense is ungodly and you reason without the Holy Spirit: it will certainly lead to death that comprises all the miseries arising from your sin. If your mind or thinking is controlled by your old sinful nature; it will result in death: however, if your mind and thinking is controlled by the Holy Spirit; it will result in life and peace. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." <u>Romans 8:6.</u>

The choice is yours, it is either you choose death; or life and peace. We pray that you will make the right choice. Hence, do not let your sinful nature control your mind, and stop using your days carnally; so that you can live forever. In addition, it must be noted that the carnal attitude is inevitably opposed to the purpose of God, and neither can nor follow His instructions for the living beings. People who hold this carnal attitude cannot please God. Carnal thoughts and its purposes are hostile to God; because it does not submit itself to God's law. Many people throughout the world are becoming enemies of God; when they are controlled by their corrupt human nature that makes it impossible for them to obey the statutes of God. The Bible certified this fact by saying, "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be." Romans 8:7. Countless people are becoming the enemies of their Creator, at an alarming rate; due to contrary desires. Hence, start living spiritually; because your sinful thinking and desires are fighting against God. Do you want to be a friend of God or His enemy?

<u>The Carnal churches:</u> Any church that its members argue with one another, and there is rivalry among them: it proves that such a church is not a spiritual church, but a carnal church; since the members are acting like the unbelievers. As long as there is jealousy, strife and discord among the parishioners of a church: such a church is not spiritual; but carnal that is being controlled by ordinary impulses and sinful capacity: even if the leaders and parishioners of such a church confess otherwise. It is immaterial if a church has millions of parishioners/members and thousands of parishes throughout the world: inasmuch as there are envying and wrangling and factions among the parishioners; such a church is a carnal church, because they are behaving like the Gentiles.

You need to realize that, if you are influenced by your corrupt nature and you are living by human standards; then you are not spiritual, but you are using your lifetime carnally; according to the Book of Corinthians which says, "For you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?" <u>1 Corinthians 3:3.</u> Do you think that the parishioners of your church are ready to rectify their conducts? Are the factions in your church prepared to be united? Are the elders of your church prepared to quell the conflict among the parishioners? Are you ready to abstain from following your sinful and selfish desires? Time has come, for you to stop walking and living carnally; like the people of the world, in order to please your Creator.

Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 6

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Believers should cease living carnally

The Beloved must not be given to temporal things, or focus on carnal activities. Christians must abstain from everything that pertains to worldliness. The Believers should flee from whatever that can lead them astray; and vanities of this world must not be their goals. The children of God should not follow the customs of the godless nations; even if they are residing in such countries. They must neither live nor act like the unbelievers; else there will be consequences. Christians must not get involved in vices; immorality; wickedness; or any wrongdoing that can profane, or blaspheme the holy name of the Lord. The Bible cautioned by saying, "Thus says the Lord: 'Do not learn the way of the Gentiles;...'" Jeremiah 10:2.

You have been warned; do not take the godless people as your models. Do not be impressed by their glamour and glitz; no matter how impressive they are; because the religion of the ungodly people is nothing but smoke, and it is not acceptable to God. Let it be at the back of your mind, that flirting with the world and breaking your vow to God will make you an enemy of God. The unfaithful people should realize that loving the world is the same as hating God. Whoever loves the world is an enemy of God. So, if you decide to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God; according to the Book of James which says, "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God." James 4:4. You must live spiritually, in order to be a friend of God.

The name of God must not be profaned

Nowadays, many people are disrespecting their Creator; even the Believers are treating the sacred things of the Lord with contempt. Many Christians are desecrating the Churches of the Lord throughout the world, and they are indirectly disrespecting the principles of Christianity. There is nothing like solemn dedication among the Christendom anymore; instead they are abusing the divine mercy and favor of God. The Bible attested to this fact by saying "And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the Lord." <u>Leviticus</u> <u>19:12.</u> Are you misusing the name of God? Are you profaning the name of God through your actions and reactions? You must stop using the name of God to make false promises; in order to prove that you are not living carnally.

You must desist from bringing disgrace on the Holy name of God before it is too late; because you must not treat the name of God with irreverence. You must not profane the name of God by using it as a byword, or slogan. It is your duty to show respect for the mighty name of Lord. Inasmuch as God demands respect from every soul; you must not desecrate His holy name; according to the scripture which says, "You shall not profane My holy name, but I will be hallowed among the children of Israel. I am the Lord who sanctifies you." <u>Leviticus 22:32.</u> Is your lifestyle bringing shame in the name of God? Are your conducts profaning or disgracing His sacred name? If the answer to the questions is yes, then it signifies that you are living your lifetime carnally.

Your situation is not an excuse to profane God

Almighty God cherishes His reputation; so, He will never allow His reputation to be tarnished among mankind. He will not permit His name to be defiled and profaned. Almighty God refuses to be dishonored; and He will never share His praise or glory with any

being. God will do whatever it takes, so that His name is neither defiled nor profaned; according to the Book of Isaiah which says, "For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it; for how should My name be profaned? And I will not give My glory to another." <u>Isaiah</u> <u>48:11.</u> If God restrain Himself in His dealings with humanity; so that He will not be defamed; don't you think you must not defile or profane His name?

Whatever that is happening in your life must not make you to disrespect God. Even, your situation is not an excuse for you to profane the sacred name of the Lord. You must never allow God to be dishonored through you; because of gain or reward. If you are in an unsatisfactory condition; do not behave in manners that will disgrace the Lord your God. People in a precarious situation must neither deceive nor lie; so that the name of God will not be profaned. Be honest in all your ways and make sure that your speeches will not make people to insult God. Don't allow your predicament to push you to take bribes, or commit acts of injustice because of profit. The Book of Ezekiel corroborated this fact by saying, "And will you profane Me among My people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, killing people who should not die and keeping people alive who should not live, by lying to My people who listen to lies?" Ezekiel 13:19. Don't you think your attitudes and contrary behaviors are bringing shame on God? Change today, when you still have the opportunity.

God is concern about His profaned name

People throughout the world are disrespecting the name of the Almighty God. Even the governments of the nations of the world are dishonoring the name of their Creator who installs them in their offices. Even the cultists; the ritualists; the idolaters; and the forces of darkness are dishonoring His precious name; because the Christians have dragged the sacred name in the mud. However, God cares about what the Gentiles will think of

Him. He is concerned about His name that the so-called Believers are ruining on a daily basis. Are you among those that are bringing disgrace on the name of God? Are you giving your Maker a bad name wherever you go? Are you profaning the Lord by the way you live? Have you forgotten that if you dishonor the name of God; then it will be difficult or impossible to use the same name to win the souls of the unbelievers?

We can deduce that whoever that is profaning God is ruining His work on earth; and such people will never escape punishments. Therefore, the time has come for you to stop bringing shame on the Lord. The Bible confirmed this fact by saying, "But I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations wherever they went." <u>Ezekiel 36:21</u>. You need to repent and make amendments; else God Himself will act for His name's sake, so that it will not be profaned. God will not allow His name to be profaned or degraded anymore before the Gentiles; instead, He will act fast and the offenders will be penalized.

Many Christians who have strayed refused to be corrected; because of their financial status, educational status, and positions in their community or State. They will be saying "If we are on the wrong path, why is everything going well for us?" What such people do not understand is that God is giving them time to repent, and He is refraining, in order to protect the honor of His name before the Gentiles; who may develop a wrong notion. Therefore, God always utilizes patience and mercy in such a situation; so that He will not look like a liar who cannot deliver what He promised such people; according to the Bible passage which says, "But I acted for My name's sake, that it should not be profaned before the Gentiles, in whose sight I had brought them out." <u>Ezekiel 20:14,9.</u>

Topic: Stop using your lifetime carnally – Part 7

Bible Reading: 1 Peter 4:1-6

Is God blasphemed through you?

Today, many people in the world are speaking sacrilegiously about God, and because they are not arrested; or because it is not a crime in their State/country, they think that they will not be penalized. Such people will be punished at the appropriate time by the Lord. The situation of numerous people across the globe is caused by insulting God; due to their act or speech. Anyone who disrespects God in any way, will not go without suffering any punishment or injury. Every form of lack of reverence concerning God is blasphemy, and whoever commits blasphemy will be judged. People who are feeling that the commandments of the Lord are worthless; or the sacred things of God are beneath consideration will be punished severely.

If God is ready to punish the children of Israel for their disobedience and lack of respect for His instructions; before Moses intervened on their behalf by pleading to God; then, it means whoever commits blasphemy will face the consequences.

<u>Moses averted punishment for the Israelites:</u> The Bible stated that when Moses delayed coming down from Mount Sinai; people complained to Aaron who took earrings from the people to make a molded calf. Then the next day, they had a feast, and the people rose to play shamefully without moral restraint. God intended to destroy them, and make Moses a great nation. Moses pleaded with God, and said people might blaspheme His holy name; that it is because God cannot fulfill His promise to take them to the Promised Land; that was the reason that He killed them in the wilderness. Then God relented; changed His mind and let the people of Israel live. <u>Exodus 32:1-14.</u> If God changed His mind so that His Holy name will not be blasphemed; don't you think He will penalize those who show irreverence for Him? Don't you know that you will be punished, if people blaspheme God through you? Any form of disrespect; or insult towards the Lord and His works will be judged.

King David was penalized for adultery: When David committed adultery with Bathsheba the wife of Uriah the Hittite. He also plotted and killed Uriah; then, he brought Bathsheba into his palace and she conceived for king David. This conduct of David displeased the Lord. God sent Nathan to David with a message that ".....Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun." <u>2 Samuel 12:10-12.</u>

Though King David repented, God still punished him for his sins; most especially because of his blasphemous behavior, that caused the Lord's enemies to lose respect for God. The first son that Bathsheba bore to David did not survive; because this deed of David utterly scorned the Lord and he treated the Lord with contempt in this matter. The Book of Samuel confirmed this fact by saying "However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die." <u>2 Samuel 12:14.</u> Have you ever despised the command of God? In what ways have you shown contempt for the word of the Lord? Is your conduct giving the unbelievers a reason to speak against God? Time has come to flee from whatever that can make people to blaspheme the Lord through you.

Name of God is blasphemed through countless Christians: Nowadays, the name of the Lord is blasphemed through the nefarious activities of many Believers. The Gentiles are saying insulting things about God; due to the conducts of most Christians. Even the name of the Lord is being discredited on a daily basis; because of the acts of the Beloved, who have strayed from the righteous path. This is a wake up call, for the leaders of Christianity who are teaching others; but they don't teach themselves; therefore, whatever they taught others that is evil; they should stop doing in plain sight.

The leaders of Christianity should lead by example. Whatever that they preached against, they should cease doing them in ways that are discrete/modified but sinful; so that the name of God will not be blasphemed continually; according to the Bible passages which says, "You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? You who say, 'Do not commit adultery,' do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?..." <u>Romans 2:21-23.</u> You need to realize that if the name of the Lord is insulted, or despised through you; it will attract a penalty.

The Beloved must do whatever it takes; so that the name of the Lord will neither be scorned, nor cursed through their attitudes. It is the duty of every Christian to make sure that the name of God is not blasphemed through him/her; else such a person will be judged. Therefore, make a resolution to abstain from whatever that can make God to be taunted through you; according to the scripture which says, "For 'the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you' and it is written." <u>Romans 2:24.</u> Are people mocking God through you? Is the name of God spoken against through your conduct? Remember people must not show contempt for God, or slander His name due to your acts.

Live spiritually to win the Gentiles

Christians are the light of the world; just as Jesus Christ our Lord is the Messiah and the light of the world. God called the Believers for salvation of soul; in order to wind souls into His eternal kingdom. Any Beloved who performs his/her duties

judiciously will be appointed as a covenant of God to mankind; such a person will be selected, and sent to bring light and promises of hope to the nations of the world.

Inasmuch as Christians are called to live right and demonstrate the righteousness of the Lord; Almighty God will keep and protect such people from evil. The people will be the sign of the agreement of God with humanity. The Bible attested to this fact by saying, "I, the Lord, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand.; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles." Isaiah 42:6. Do you think you are worthy to be a symbol of the covenant of God? If not, change today and start living spiritually.

Will your behavior make the Gentiles to confess?: The attitudes of most Christians throughout the world are making it difficult for the unbelievers to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Today, the way the Beloved are conducting themselves, is hindering the conversion of the Gentiles to Christianity. Until the children of God change their acts; the pagans may not be willing to confess that their fathers inherited nothing but lies, emptiness, and futility; together with worthless idols, in which there is no profit; according to the testimony of Jeremiah which says, "O Lord my strength and my fortress, My refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles should come to You from the ends of the earth and say, 'Surely our fathers have inherited lies, worthlessness and unprofitable things." Jeremiah 16:19. Are you sure that you convince the unbelievers that mortals cannot manufacture gods? Can you make the Gentiles realize that their factories turn out, no-gods but illusions? Are you virtuous enough to make the godless people accept and confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior?

You need to make efforts so that the name of the Lord will be praised and glorified through you; instead of being blasphemed.

You must also realize that, with or without you, the name of the Lord will be great throughout the universe. From dawn to dusk the name of God will be praised, in every nation on earth. From east to west; from north to south; the name of the Lord will be glorified on a daily basis. People from one end of this world to the other will honor the Lord, and from sunrise to sunset, the name of God will be glorified. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; in every place incense shall be offered to My name, and a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations,' says the Lord of hosts." <u>Malachi 1:11.</u> Remember the name of God must not be blasphemed, but honored from morning till night through you.

Finally, stop using your lifetime carnally and always be prepared; because you don't know when Jesus Christ will come. It is inevitable for Christians to live spiritually and be ready; since the Son of Man will come when people least expect. The children of God must be awake and watchful; because they have no idea what day or time their Master will show up. As it is written, "Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at the hour you do not expect." <u>Matthew 24:44; Luke 12:40.</u>

<u>The Seal: 1 Peter 4:3:</u> "For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries."