

Lesson #1

The Lust of the Flesh

A member of our Tuesday bible study requested "Beating addiction the biblical way."

The English dictionary defines *addiction* as "a state of being given up to some habit, practice, or pursuit, esp. to narcotics."

This lesson will introduce you to the biblical concept of addiction by understanding SEVEN aspects of the Lust of Flesh.

1. Every member of the human race has an Old Sin Nature (OSN) as a result of Adam's Original Sin (AOS).

The OSN is part of the genetic package of AOS assigned to every member of human race (Rom.5:12; 1 Cor.15:22, 45).

The one exception to this principle is Jesus Christ because of the Virgin Birth (VB) (Luke 1:34-35).

Thus all members of the human race are sinners because of AOS and the imputed 13 judicial charges. (1 Tim.1:15).

2. The OSN resides in the flesh of mankind (1 John 1:8-10)

"For they mouth empty, boastful words and, by appealing to the lustful sinful human nature, they entice people who are just escaping from those who live in error." (2 Pet.2:18/ NIV)

The OSN resides in the flesh from birth until death (Psa.51:5).

3. The OSN produces all sorts of lustful craving or desires in us (Gal.5:16, 24).

Our OSN produces, within us an appetite for lust gratification (Gal.5:19-24; Heb.3-4).

4. The lust of the OSN is not sin but volitional gratification of that lust appetite is. (Rom.6:12-14).

We sin because we are sinners (AOS/ OSN) but not vice versa.

While all members of the human race are sinners (AOS), each member of the human race chooses to to gratify the lust of his OSN or "to sin". (James 1:14-15).

5. Cosmos diabolicus (evil thinking of the world) attached to the volitional gratification of the lust appetite leads to addiction: slavery (Rom.6:12-14) and depravity (Rom.1:18, 24-32).

Note the connection of the hostility of the mind with the flesh in Rom.8:5-8 and Gal.5:16 and 1 John 2:14-16.

6. God instituted biblical law as a restrainer of the depravity of the OSN upon the society of mankind (Rom.7:14-25).

The Ten commandments is an example of this principle. (Luke 18:18-22; Exo.20:12-17; Rom.3:10,19-20; 7:7-13).

Biblical law was designed to show mankind that they need a Savior (Gal.3:24-26). It was not designed for the righteous (1 Tim.1:8-11, 15-16; Rom.3:21-24).

7. Grace salvation is the first step to beating addiction the biblical way. (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

Note the contrast between what the law could not do and what Jesus can do regarding sin (AOS/ OSN) in Rom.8:3-4; 13:13-14).