

Doctrine of the Damned

1. There are specific lists of the damned given in *Scriptures*.
 - *Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,*
 - *1 Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,*
 - *Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*
 - *Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,*
 - *Revelation 22:15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.*

2. Within the list of the damned specific sins and specific practitioners of the same are described.
 - *Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness*
 - ❖ fornication, inserted word, not found in the original
 - ❖ wickedness, *poneria* (pon-ay-ree'-ah); malice; plots, sins
 - ❖ covetousness, *pleonexia* (pleh-on-ex-ee'-ah); avarice [to crave] , i.e. (by implication) fraudulency, extortion
 - ❖ maliciousness; *kakia* (kak-ee'-ah); badness, i.e. depravity, or malignity, or trouble
 - ❖ full of envy, *phthonos* (fthon'-os); ill-will, i.e. jealousy (spite)
 - ❖ murder, *phonos* (fon'-os); (to slay); murder
 - ❖ debate, *eris* (er'-is); a quarrel, i.e. (by implication) wrangling [arguing]
 - ❖ deceit, *dolos* (dol'-os); (probably meant to decoy); a trick (bait), i.e. (figuratively) wile
 - ❖ malignity; *kakoetheia* (kak-o-ay'-thi-ah); bad character, i.e. (specially) mischievousness

- ❖ whisperers, *psithuristes* (psith-oo-ris-tace'); a secret calumniator (to utter maliciously false statements)
- ❖ backbiters, *katalalos* (kat-al'-al-os); talkative against, i.e. a slanderer
- ❖ haters of God, *theostuges* (theh-os-too-gace'); hateful to God, i.e. impious
- ❖ spiteful, *hubristes* (hoo-bris-tace'); an insulter, i.e. maltreater
- ❖ proud, *huperephanos* (hoop-er-ay'-fan-os); (conspicuous), i.e. haughty:
- ❖ boasters, *alazon* (al-ad-zone'); from ale (vagranity); braggart
- ❖ inventors of evil things, *epheuretes* (ef-yoo-ret'-ace); a discoverer, i.e. contriver; *kakos* (kak-os'); (intrinsically) worthless, depraved, or injurious:
- ❖ disobedient to parents, *apeithes* (ap-i-thace'); unpersuadable, goneus (gon-yooce'); a parent
- ❖ Without understanding, *asunetos* (as-oon'-ay-tos); unintelligent; by implication, wicked
- ❖ covenantbreakers, *asunthetos* (as-oon'-thet-os); properly, not agreed, i.e. treacherous to compacts:
- ❖ without natural affection, *astorgos* (as'-tor-gos); to cherish affectionately; hard-hearted towards kindred:
- ❖ implacable, inserted word not found in the original
- ❖ unmerciful: *aneleemon* (an-eleh-ay'-mone); merciless:

Romans 1:32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

- *1 Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither*
 - ❖ fornicators, *pornos* (por'-nos); from pernemi (to sell; a (male) prostitute, i.e. (by analogy) a debauchee (someone who is carelessly corrupt, a libertine or playboy)
 - ❖ nor idolaters, *eidololatres* (i-do-lol-at'-race); an image- servant or) worshipper (literally or figuratively)
 - ❖ nor adulterers, *moichos* (moy-khos'); a (male) paramour (lover); apostate:

- ❖ nor effeminate, *malakos* (mal-ak-os'); soft, i.e. fine (clothing); a boy kept by an adult child abuser
- ❖ nor abusers of themselves with mankind, *arsenokoites* (ar-sen-ok-oy'-tace); a sodomite (homosexual)
- ❖ Nor thieves, *kleptes* (klep'-tace); a stealer (literally or figuratively)
- ❖ nor covetous, *pleonektes* (pleh-on-ek'-tace); holding (desiring) more, i.e. eager for gain (avaricious, hence a defrauder)
- ❖ nor drunkards, *methusos* (meth'-oo-sos); tipsy, i.e. a sot (a habitual drunkard)
- ❖ nor revilers, *loidoros* (loy'-dor-os); (mischief); abusive, i.e. a blackguard (a rude or unscrupulous person)
- ❖ nor extortioners, *harpax* (har'-pax); rapacious (excessively grasping or covetous), living on prey
- ❖ *shall inherit the kingdom of God.*

Special Note.

Lest any person despair 1 Corinthians 6:11 offers hope. “*And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*”

- *Colossians 3:5 Mortify [put to death] therefore your members which are upon the earth;*
 - ❖ fornication, *porneia* (por-ni'-ah); harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively, idolatry
 - ❖ uncleanness, *akatharsia* (ak-ath-ar-see'-ah); impurity (the quality), physically or morally
 - ❖ inordinate affection, *pathos* (path'-os); properly, suffering ("pathos"), i.e. a passion, (especially sexual desire)
 - ❖ evil concupiscence, *epithumia* (ep-ee-thoo-mee'-ah); a longing (especially for what is forbidden sexually)
 - ❖ and covetousness, which is idolatry: *pleonexia* (pleh-on-ex-ee'-ah); avarice, i.e. (by implication) fraudulency, extortion

- *Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these;*
 - ❖ *adultery*, inserted word, not found in the original
 - ❖ fornication, *porneia* (por-ni'-ah); harlotry (including adultery and incest); figuratively, idolatry:
 - ❖ uncleanness, *akatharsia* (ak-ath-ar-see'-ah); impurity (the quality), physically or morally
 - ❖ lasciviousness, *aselgeia* (as-elg'-i-a); licentiousness (lacking legal or moral restraints; *especially* : disregarding sexual restraints)
- *Revelation 22:15 For without are*
 - ❖ dogs, *kuon* (koo'-ohn); a primary word; a dog ["hound"] (literally or figuratively):
 - ❖ and sorcerers, *pharmakeus* (far-mak-yoos'); (a drug, i.e. spell-giving potion); a druggist ("pharmacist") or poisoner, i.e. (by extension) a magician
 - ❖ and whoremongers, *pornos* (por'-nos); (to sell); a (male) prostitute, i.e. (by analogy) a debauchee (libertine)
 - ❖ and murderers, *phoneus* (fon-yooce'); a murderer (always of criminal [or at least intentional] homicide.
 - ❖ and idolaters, *eidololatres* (i-do-lol-at'-race); an image- servant or) worshipper (literally or figuratively)
 - ❖ and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. *pseudos* (psyoo'-dos); a falsehood:

3. These lists of the damned are provided for several reasons.

- Knowledge. The lists of the damned are provided for knowledge. *1 Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?*
- Self-examination. The lists of the damned are provided in order to allow self-examination. *2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*
- No excuse. The lists of the damned are provided so that every person will be without excuse having been properly warned. *Romans 3:19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*

- Assign guilt. The lists of the damned are designed to assign guilt, produce shame and induce repentance. Christians in general and pastors in particular have a unique responsibility to issue an alarm to the unconverted praying that God will give individuals repentance. *2 Timothy 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*
4. Unless God grants repentance the natural effects of sinful activity will be activated. There will be a progression in evil or injurious behavior until the soul sinks into the abyss of eternal darkness along with the devil and his angels. Observe sin's progression in hardening the heart.
- Exposure. The heart is exposed to temptation and feels uncomfortable but also is stirred with excitement.
 - Looking. The heart makes a decision to look upon evil time and again thereby becoming psychologically accepting of it.
 - Act. The heart begins to actively act out the imaginations of the heart. Alexander Pope explains why (1688-1744).

“Vice is a monster of so frightful a mien,
That to be trusted needs but to be seen.

Yet, seen too often, familiar with her face,
we first endure, then pity, then embrace.”

- Pleasure. The heart enjoys the pleasure principle of sin. *Hebrews 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*
- Will. The heart is determined to exercise its will to power and so sin against knowledge. *Romans 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*
- Suppression. The heart suppresses the truth as knowledge is sent away so that passions may rule. *Romans 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*
- Sin is multiplied. The heart multiples its expressions of evil. *Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:*

- Damnation desired. In the moment of passion and pleasure with the will to power being manifested there is such a love for sin damnation is desired to gospel obedience and repentance. *John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. Romans 1:32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*
 - Return. Despite divine discipline in various ways the heart returns to evil. *2 Peter 2:22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.*
5. Only the Lord can arrest the heart's expression of sin for souls are taken captive and the will is enslaved unable and unwilling to do what is right. The heart might regret and abhor the consequences of a particular transgression due to feelings of guilt and shame but still it returns to the joy it finds in a particular act condemned by God. *2 Timothy 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*
 6. A person can know if they are on the list of the damned simply by being honest with themselves.
 7. Why do unbelievers remain on the list of the damned? Several reasons may be noted.
 - Atheism. There are intellectual atheists who simply but emotionally deny the existence of God. The *Bible* calls such a person a fool. *Psalms 53:1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good.* There is also the practical atheist or the person who lives life as if there is no God. Both find freedom to live life as they so please.
 - Unbelief. Individuals do not believe there is a real hell. It has been noted that Jesus spoke more about hell than He did about heaven. Nevertheless, those who deny the existence of hell believe they have nothing to fear. Jesus said individuals should fear God for there is a hell. *Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*
 - Misconception. Some individuals have a misconception of God. They believe He is too loving and too kind to condemn a soul to an eternal torment. There is more comfort in the God of imagination rather than the God of revelation.
 - Non-responsibility. Some people shift the blame back to God saying they are what they are because God has made them a homosexual or a murderer or a prostitute or whatever their various lust patterns dictate. Any aberrations of character are ultimately the fault of God. This argument did not work for Adam. It did not work for Eve. It will not work for anyone.

- Love for sin. There is a genuine love for expressions of the heart God condemns.
 - Bondage of the will. The heart is in bondage to sin. The will accepts with eagerness and consistently with its nature but the ruling principle of the heart is the law of sin. *Romans 7:13 ...But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good [the law]; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.*
8. Why do the religiously inclined, including professing Christians, remain on the list of the damned? It is not difficult to discover the answer. Several reasons are observed.
- There is a false reliance upon a religious experience. In western culture many babies are baptized and many children make a sweet profession of faith and are baptized at an early age. That act of baptism along with other religious acts such as going to church, giving, speaking in a special prayer language, and learning how to talk “God talk” consisting of a religious vocabulary gives false assurance of salvation. What is not present in this head knowledge is love for the Lord. Authentic love for God the Father and God the Son is defined in terms of gospel obedience. *John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. 1 John 2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.*
 - There is a false sense of security. Many Christians have been taught the Biblical doctrine of the eternal security of the soul. This is sometimes interpreted to mean that it no longer matters how a person lives, though the Bible teaches that faith without works is dead or inoperative. *James 2:20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?*
 - There is a wrong understanding of carnality. Many church people have been taught there are three categories of people: those who are saved, those who are lost and those who are saved but acting like an unbeliever. This third group of people are called the “*carnal Christian*” or “*fleshly believer*.” Such language makes as much sense as speaking about a “*heavenly devil*”.

One obvious result of the carnal Christian theory is that many people now actually believe they can live a life of fleshly pleasure, still call themselves a Christian and have hope of reaching heaven even if they die living in a present state of fornication, adultery, or drug addiction with hatred, greed, lust and larceny characterizing their hearts. The challenge is to convince people by persuasion they are deceived.

The truth of the matter is that God will not be mocked. The *Scriptures* are plain. “*For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die*” (*Rom. 8:13*). Such people will die physically and they will die eternally. “*For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting*” (*Galatians 6:8*).

- There is misunderstanding of the situation of the man in the church of Corinth. A passage often appealed to in support of allowing Christians to be placed into the category of a carnal Christian is 1 Corinthians 5:5. By appealing to this passage the concept is set forth that if a Christian dies in a state of carnality they will still go to heaven and be saved. If this is true, why should a professing Christian give up any darling sin they are wedded to such as fornication, adultery, homosexuality, pornography, drug addiction or drunkenness? If the carnal Christian doctrine is true worst that will happen to a professing believer is a premature death and even that is not bad if heaven is gained.

First, the man in 1 Corinthians 5:5 was placed under formal church discipline in a public ceremony. When the church came together for worship there was to be church discipline. The man was to be placed outside the church and treated as an unbeliever. Greek scholar Dr. A. T. Robinson comments on this passage by noting, *“Paul certainly means expulsion from the church (1 Corinthians 5:2) and regarding him as outside of the commonwealth of Israel (Ephesians 2:11 f)”*.

Second, the man in 1 Corinthians 5:5 was returned to Satan. Matthew Henry explains why. *“Christ and Satan divide the world: and those that live in sin, when they profess relation to Christ, belong to another master, and by excommunication should be delivered up to him; and this in the name of Christ. Note, Church-censures are Christ’s ordinances, and should be dispensed in his name. It was to be done also when they were gathered together, in full assembly. The more public the more solemn, and the more solemn the more likely to have a good effect on the offender. Note, Church-censures on notorious and incorrigible sinners should be passed with great solemnity. Those who sin in this manner are to be rebuked before all, that all may fear, 1 Timothy 5:20.”*

Third, the man in 1 Corinthians 5 was not given false comfort. In the final Day of Judgment the man may be saved, but then again he may not. The goal of church discipline is to bring a professing Christian back to a proper expression of faith.

It must be kept in mind there is a difference between a head knowledge of the gospel and a heart knowledge. A head knowledge of salvation is something even the devil knows about. Heart knowledge is when there is sweet communion with the Lord because of gospel obedience.

While it is true the church of Corinth was not to assign final condemnation or damnation to the man of 1 Corinthians 5 – for that is the divine prerogative – neither was the church to be silent on the lifestyle of the individual or offer him false hope of salvation by telling him what a good person he was. Certainly the church was not to give him financial or emotional support in any fashion. Gospel pearls and gospel treasures are not to be cast before those who will trample grace underfoot.

Any professing Christian living in open and known sin who finds comfort in the man of 1 Corinthians 5:5 should hear the Lord’s final word on the matter of unrighteous living to the church. It is a simple message. Those who will not repent shall some day find they cannot repent. They will be banished from heaven no matter how good an estimation they or others have of their heart.

Revelation 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. 14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. 16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

- There is false comfort and support. The person who is plainly listed among the damned is always grateful when they find someone who understands the struggles of the flesh, accepts them as they are and then participates in a lifestyle that reinforces evil. The attraction of such people one to another in this manner is described by Paul in Romans 1.
- There is encouragement from those who should know better. In the world of ideas more often than not the Christian's worldview is reshaped by the relentless pressures brought on by the world. These pressures plus a sense of being overwhelmed by evil causes good Christians to succumb and tolerate what should be cried against. The *Bible* exhorts Christians not to be pressed into the world's mold. *Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 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.*

Weary with the conflict or hoping against hope that family members and friends will yet go to heaven even if they die in a state of wickedness, many Christians abandon the battle and begin to support financially and emotionally those who are living contrary to the known will of the Lord. God's money and resources are channeled to support adultery, fornication, homosexuality, drug addiction and every other known vice of those who are on the list of the damned.

However well meaning the reasons for doing this is the end result is the same. Individuals find no need to change. They have encouragement and reassurance of their salvation from those who should know better.

It was not telling individuals they were "*good people really*" despite their immoral lifestyles that put Jesus on the Cross. It was calling them to repentance that the crowd cried out, "*Crucify Him! Kill Him!*" But who wants to die today for calling others to conversion and warning others they are NOT "*good people*" if their lifestyle puts them on the list of the damned?

- There is a misuse of *Scripture*. A little knowledge is a danger. There are people who pit one *Scripture* against another or one attribute of God against another. For example, the love of God is often promoted at the expense of His holiness. The *Bible* clearly says, “*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord*” *Hebrews 12:14*
 - There is the suppressing of the truth. Because so many passages condemn those who are listed among the damned the *Bible* is not set aside. The Holy Spirit is not simply grieved but quenched and the conscience is seared with a hot iron. What person on the list of the damned would memorize and meditate and teach others the following passages of *Scripture*? *Matthew 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God.*
9. It is important for Christians to exhort others to repentance and righteous living.
- *Hebrews 3:13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*
10. There is no value to allow professing Christians to see themselves on the list of the damned and yet reassure them of going to heaven.
11. To those who are honest enough to see themselves on the list of the damned, to those who are brave enough to recognize family and friends really are on the list of the damned, hear and or share this great invitation.

Isaiah 1:18

*“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD:
though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”*