Growing in the Lord's teachings

Continued from page 6B

our faith (2 Pet. 1.5-10).

2. Why did the Corinthian still need milk and not me

still need milk and not meat (v. 2)?

Babies need milk, not meat As new converts, Paul fed the Corinthians the "milk," not the "meat," of the Word (1 Cor. 3.2). It was proper in the early stages of their spiritual development to teach them foundational truths. Now, however, the time had come for them to have a certain level of spiritual maturity in their faith walk. Paul should have been able to feed them "meat," or deeper doctrines (the deep things God-the meat of the

Word), but they were con-tent to remain as infants. When

Word), but they were con-tent to remain as infants. When there will always be different levels of spiritual maturity in a church, there comes a time when believers should be capable of teaching others (Heb. 5:12).

3. What does it mean to be carnal? Does this mean that the Corinthians were not truly converted (v. 3)?

While the word "carnal" may bring to mind various immoral practices, the us-age of this word is quite broad. When he spoke of the "works of the flesh" (Gal 5:19), Paul included such sins as adultery and formication but also

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"I WAS DEAD" (Part III)

J.M. Little, Teacher

He spent much time visiting and talking with Bible teachers, deacons and preachers, hoping that they would tell him what was wrong with him and why his heart was empty after all those years of being on a religious profession. But all this time was spent in vain. No one around him could tell him what was wrong with him.

idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, and heresies. Carnality has to do with a worldly outlook that

is manifested in many ways.
In this case, Paul realized nn tins case, Paul realized that the Corinthians were being carnal in the envy, strife, and division existing among them. "Envying" (1 Cor. 3:3) is the Greek zelos, which can be rendered zeal but here means jealousy. The word "strife" is the Greek eris and means contention, rivalry, and wrangling. According to Greek mythology, Eris was the goddess of strife and discord. In this case, Paul that the Corinthian

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profession. But all this time was spent in vain. No one around him could tell him what was wrong with him. Now my friends, will you hear as for eternity? Hold your seats now! That young man was dead! Yes, he was religious to the core, but he was DEAD! Will you listen? The blessed time came when another part of our text was fulfilled in his heart: "And you hath he quickened." Quickened means "made alive, or awakened." How was this done? Will you just listen? "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." (II Cor. 4:4) There you have it, my friends. The Holy Spirit shined the light of the glorious gospel of Christ into that young man's mind! And what did that young man see? He saw that he had never believed on Christ. "And when He (the Holy Spirit) is come, He will reprove the world of sin... Of sin because they believe not on me (Christ)." (In. 16:8,9) Yes, up until this time, that young man was dead. All his religious duties before this would have been all the more kindling wood to burn that young man in hell. But now, here he is seeing for the first time in his life that he has never believed on Christ. That was the greatest thing that had ever happened to him. Seeing for the first time in his life that he young man in hell. But now, here he is seeing for the tirst time in his life that he has never believed on Christ. That was the greatest thing that had ever happened to him. Seeing for the first time in his life that he had never believed on Christ was a startling revelation. He did not know what to do. So he did what Abraham did: he tried to help the Lord out. That is, he set about to try to make himself presentable to the Lord, hoping the Lord would save him. But as the Holy Spirit was in charge, he was taught by the Holy Spirit that he was a totally depraved being and that God is Sovereign. The Holy Spirit taught him all about himself. And that Christ alone could be his Sacrifice. The Holy Spirit taught this young man his lost, guilty, filthy, vile and wretched condition as a child of Satan. (In. 8:44) The Holy Spirit showed him that he was a section of Sotton (ILLING 3:26). The Holy Spirit tought him the full his righteenesses was just filthers. captive of Satan. (II Tim. 2:26) The Holy Spirit taught him that all his righteousness was just filthy or monstrous rags, according to Isa. 64:6. Seeing all this and his helpless, hopeless, hapless, hell-born, hell-

bent and hell-deserving condition, drove that young man to the brink of despair! He cried out in his soul and heart many times: "I don't believe I'll ever be saved! I am too wicked a sinner. Lord, you ought to send me

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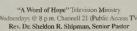
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