

3. The process of reverting begins with implosion or exploding within by yielding to the temptations of the sin nature. Implosion leads to explosion or fragmentation. Fragmentation unchecked leads to reversionism.
4. Reversionism is the status of the believer who fails to execute the protocol plan of God for the Church Age. He returns to his pre-salvation *modus operandi* and *modus vivendi*.
5. Reversionism is maximum control of the old sin nature over the life of the believer so that the believer functions under the dictates of the sin nature exactly as he did as an unbeliever.
6. The reversionistic believer is classified as a loser in the Christian life. He doesn't lose his salvation; that's impossible. But by failing to execute the protocol plan of God, the loser loses his escrow blessings for time and eternity.
7. Reversionism is a series of related failures in the spiritual life which results in failure to execute the protocol plan of God, terminating in Christian degeneracy.
8. Christian degeneracy is defined as the decline from the normal standards of the protocol plan of God for the Church Age through the process of implosion, explosion, and reversion. In this process, the Church Age believer remains unchecked by the utilization of the rebound technique, and by other post-salvation problem-solving devices of the protocol plan.
9. Therefore, the believer unchecked by rebound sinks into subnormal categories of personal sinning.
10. Reversionism is lack of spiritual growth, apostasy, failure to attain the three stages of spiritual adulthood: spiritual self-esteem, spiritual autonomy, and spiritual maturity.
11. Reversionism is the believer's retrogression because of negative volition toward the mystery doctrine of the Church Age, which both defines and reveals God's plan, will, and purpose for your life. Reversionism is recession from any stage of spiritual growth through negative volition to doctrine. Reversionism is characterized by negative volition to doctrine, being influenced by evil, and results in perpetual carnality causing a life of perpetual discipline.
12. Reversion is a technical theological term used for rejecting absolute truth, and drawing into your mind or accepting relative truth. Reversion is a technical theological term for the results of fragmentation.
13. Fragmentation results in eight stages of reversionism:
 - a. Reaction and distraction.



- b. Frantic search for happiness.
 - c. Operation boomerang.
 - d. Emotional revolt of the soul.
 - e. Permanent negative volition.
 - f. Blackout of the soul.
 - g. Scar tissue of the soul.
 - h. Reverse process reversionism.
14. While the carnal believer can still be positive toward doctrine and faithful in using the rebound technique, the reversionistic believer is negative toward doctrine, has entered the vacuum of the soul, and does not consistently use the rebound technique. It takes only a moment to recover from carnality by the use of rebound, but it takes years to recover from reversionism.
 15. The reversionist cannot be distinguished from the unbeliever in mental attitude, modus vivendi, motivation, and modus operandi.
 16. Reversionism can occur in both unbelievers, who reject the laws of divine establishment, or in believers, which is analogous to being under the influence of evil or being apostate. Unbeliever reversionism is taught in 2 Peter 2:19-21.
 17. The reversionistic believer is under demon influence. The believer cannot be demon possessed, but he can come under demon influence. In demon influence, the soul of the unbeliever or reversionistic believer is infiltrated by false doctrine, called the “doctrine of demons” in 1 Timothy 4:1. This comes through the vacuum of the mind.
 18. Reversionism is a simple means of explaining that there are degrees of failure in the Christian life, just as there are degrees of success.

B. Reversionism and Carnality.

1. Reversionism must be distinguished from carnality.
2. Carnality is an absolute which describes the believer out of fellowship with God and in a state of sin under the control of the old sin nature (Romans 7; 1 Corinthians 3).
3. Reversionism is relative. It is a relative state of apostasy and decline described by the various categories of retrogression. In reversionism, you are perpetually carnal.
4. The carnal believer is generally positive to doctrine, faithful in the use of the rebound technique, and never loses interest in Christian doctrine.
5. The reversionistic believer follows the pattern of implosion, explosion, and sinks into the various stages of reversion unchecked by rebound.

6. While all reversionists are carnal (that is, under the control of their sin natures), all carnal believers are not reversionistic.
7. Carnality can exist temporarily while the believer is advancing in the protocol plan.
8. The believer is in an absolute state (spiritual or carnal) while growing, just as he is in an absolute state while declining.
9. Carnality can be either a temporary or permanent setback in the execution of God's will, purpose, and plan for your life.
10. **1 Corinthians 3:1** And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual persons [believers filled with the Spirit], but as unto carnal [fleshly, belonging to the sin nature], as infants in Christ.
v. 2 I gave you milk [basic doctrine] to drink, not solid food [advanced doctrines], for you were not able to receive it, and you are still not able [to perceive it],
v. 3 for you are still carnal, belonging to the sin nature [self-fragmented]. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not carnal and keep walking in conformity with men?"
 - a. Carnality is manifest in implosion or self-fragmentation, and then in explosion or polarized fragmentation.
 - b. You walk in conformity with men when in the stages of reversionism, undistinguishable from unbelievers.
11. Categories of sinning related to reversionism:
 - a. Frequent sinning is the status quo of the believer who follows the pattern of implosion, explosion and the first four stages of reversionism. Frequent sinning is characterized by ignorance; therefore, failure to utilize the rebound technique.
 - b. Continuous sinning is the status quo of the believer who follows the pattern of implosion, explosion and the last four stages of reversionism.
 - c. Sporadic sinning is when the believer checks implosion, explosion, and reversion by consistent use of the rebound technique of 1 John 1:9, followed up with the use of the other problem-solving devices. This is the status of the believer on his way to spiritual adulthood.
 - d. Occasional sinning is when the believer checks implosion, explosion, and reversion through rebound and the other problem-solving devices. This is the status of the believer in spiritual adulthood.

(End JAS4-47.Rev. See JAS4-48.Rev for the continuation of study at p. 471.)



C. The Eight Stages of Reversionism.

1. Reaction and Distraction.

- a. By the time the believer has gone through implosion (self-fragmentation) and explosion (polarized fragmentation), he has become negative toward the teaching of Bible doctrine.
- b. There are two categories of negative volition in the first stage of reversionism: reaction and distraction.
- c. Negative volition from reaction is linked to polarized legalism, in which you react to the conflict between legalism and antinomianism.
- d. Other forms of fragmentation cause reaction to Bible doctrine.
 - (1) Subjective fragmentation includes unrealistic expectation which is arrogant preoccupation with self, and role model arrogance which is arrogant preoccupation with others.
 - (2) Human relationship fragmentation is illustrated by frustration in Christian fellowship and marriage.
- e. On the other hand, distraction from Bible doctrine can be caused by apathy, indifference, wrong priorities, and the arrogance complex of sins.
- f. Many people believed in Christ at an early age. But as they grew older and more sophisticated, they began to change their thinking due to peer pressure and education. Then they reacted to Christianity, Christian people, or a local church. They became distracted by something or someone. Distraction to the protocol plan of God is based upon reaction.
- g. This reaction and distraction leads to fragmentation. Every believer is a walking grenade, who pulls the pin of his grenade by the use of his own volition. Pulling the pin comes from committing a sin related to the arrogance complex in some form of reaction. Once you fragment your life, the first thing you do is react to everything that was once important to you spiritually.
- h. Arrogance is the number one distraction to Bible doctrine:

Romans 12:2 Stop being conformed to this world [peer pressure], but be transformed by the renovation of your thought, that you may prove what the will of God is, namely, the good of intrinsic value achievement [advance to spiritual maturity], well-pleasing to God [execution of the protocol plan], the mature status quo [manufacturing of the invisible hero].

v. 3 For I say through the grace which has been given to me to everyone who is among you, stop thinking of self in terms of arrogance beyond what you ought to think, but think in terms of sanity [absolute truth] for the purpose of being rational without illusion as God has assigned to each one of us a standard of thinking from doctrine.” (EXT)

- (1) Absolute truth is always related to reality. There are boundaries in which you must think.
- (2) To be rational without illusion is the fantastic result of the daily perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.
- (3) God has assigned to each one of us a standard of thinking from two categories of doctrine: the absolute principles of theology, and the applications that are given from those principles.
- (4) Obviously, we cannot progress in the Christian life without the standard of thinking from doctrine. If we are not progressing through perception, metabolization, and application of doctrine, we are retrogressing. No one stands still in the Christian way of life.
 - i. In this stage, it is possible and even probable that the believer can recover through the use of the rebound technique. At the same time, something may challenge him back to right priorities, and learning and using the problem-solving devices. It may take divine discipline to wake him up.
 - j. The presence of reactor factors in the life result in distraction from doctrine. Reactor factors are closely related to the believer’s initial and subsequent distraction from Bible doctrine. The reactor factors include many antithetical concepts which follow the trends of the believer’s old sin nature. Reactor factors include the following: