



“Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth”



## BIBLE CONFERENCE

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### THE TWO NATURES OF THE SAVED

#### INTRODUCTION:

This lesson is about the two natures of the saved. All mankind is born with a sinful nature. This sinful nature in scripture is called the “natural man.” When a person “gets saved,” there is a second nature given to that person that is perfect and holy. This new nature is “spiritual.” You will see in this lesson both the old “natural man” and his nature and the new “spiritual” nature strive within a saved person for preeminence.

If a saved person yields to the sinful nature of the old natural man he will become carnal and worldly. If a saved person yields to the new spiritual nature given through the Holy Spirit he will follow after righteousness and be a fruitful Christian.

In addition to discussing the two natures of the saved, I will show several ways the Bible tells how the saved person can defeat the old natural man while in this life. I conclude the lesson by showing that after death (or rapture!) the old natural man of the saved person will be done away with forever.

#### WHO IS THE NATURAL MAN?

All people born into this world are born with a sinful nature. This sinful nature is also called the “natural” man in the Bible. The natural man has a fallen human parentage. Mankind was cursed with a sinful nature the day that Adam sinned:

1 Cor. 15:45-47 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is **spiritual**, but that which is **natural**; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.

Rom. 5:12-14 Wherefore, as **by one man sin entered into the world**, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed

when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

1 Cor. 15:22 **For as in Adam all die**, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Rom. 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, **did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.**

Rom. 8:13 **For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die:** but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

1 Cor. 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God;** neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NATURAL MAN:

The natural man has certain characteristics which I have listed below:

The natural man can not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him, and he can not know them:

1 Cor. 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: **neither can he know them**, because they are spiritually discerned.

The natural man can do no good:

Rom. 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth **no good thing:** for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

The natural man is completely sinful:

Rom. 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; **but with the flesh the law of sin.**

Rom. 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned **sin in the flesh:**

Gal. 5:19-21 Now the **works of the flesh are manifest**, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the

which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Pet. 4:2-4 That he no longer should live the rest of his time **in the flesh to the lusts of men**, but to the will of God. For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:

The natural man can not please God:

Rom. 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh **cannot please God**.

The natural man is corrupt:

Gal. 6:8 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.

The natural man seeks to fulfill the lusts of the flesh and is under the wrath of God:

Eph. 2:2-3 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the **children of disobedience**: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

1 Pet. 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from **fleshly lusts**, which war against the soul;

2 Pet. 2:10 But chiefly them that walk **after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness**, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities.

## WHO IS THE SPIRITUAL MAN?

When the Lord Jesus Christ spoke to Nicodemus in John chapter 3, He spoke of two types of people: those that were born of the flesh and those that are born of the Spirit. The natural man is of human parentage but the spiritual man is of Godly parentage. In order for a person to get a new spiritual nature he must be born again spiritually:

John 3:1-8 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler

of the Jews: The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.** Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

1 Pet. 1:22-23 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: **Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,** by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SPIRITUAL MAN:

There are several characteristics of the spiritual man. I have listed several of them below:

The spiritual man can not sin because he is born of God:

1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God **doth not commit sin**; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

1 John 5:18 We know that whosoever is **born of God sinneth not**; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

The spiritual man has the fruits of the Spirit:

Gal. 5:22-23 But the **fruit of the Spirit is love**, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

The spiritual nature is righteous and holy:

Eph. 4:24 And that ye put on the **new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

The spiritual man can discern the things of God:

1 Cor. 2:9-12 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. **But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit:** for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

### THE SAVED HAS BOTH THE NATURAL AND SPIRITUAL MAN:

It is important for the saved person to always remember that the old nature within him has not died yet. The Bible says that both the natural and spiritual natures in the saved strive for preeminence:

Gal. 5:16-17 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. **For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh:** and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

The Apostle Paul tells of his own personal struggle between his “old” nature and his “new” nature in the following scriptures:

Rom. 7:9-25 For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, **sin revived, and I died.** And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me. Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. **O wretched man that I am!** who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I

thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

## HOW DO WE DEFEAT THE NATURAL MAN?

Since the natural man did not “die” immediately at salvation, the saved person must be diligent to fight it daily. Below I list several ways that a saved person can make this warfare against the old nature successful.

First, the saved person must reckon (i.e. consider it so) the old natural man dead. The Bible states that as far as God is concerned, the natural man IS dead. One could liken the natural man to a man who has committed a crime worthy of death but must wait on his court date to get final sentencing. The man knows he is going to be executed. The judge (let us assume) knows that the man is going to be executed. But both the condemned man and the judge must wait until the court date to make it “official.” This is God’s view of the natural man:

Rom. 6:1-11 What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid.** How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. **Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Second, the saved should not try to reform the flesh or put any confidence in it:

Gal. 6:12 As many as desire to make a **fair shew in the flesh**, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ.

Phil. 3:4 Though **I might also have confidence in the flesh**. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

Third, the saved should starve and mortify the natural man:

Rom. 13:14 **But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ**, and make not

provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

Col. 3:5 **Mortify therefore your members** which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Hebr. 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

Fourth, the saved should feed the spiritual man:

1 Pet. 2:2 As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word**, that ye may grow thereby:

2 Tim. 2:15 **Study** to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Hebr. 10:24-25 **And let us consider one another to provoke** unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but **exhorting one another**: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Fifth, the saved should walk in the Spirit. At the very least, the saved person should know they are not walking in the Spirit if they are fulfilling a fleshly lust:

Gal. 5:16 This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

### **THE NATURAL MAN WILL BE DEFEATED!**

In his earthly life the saved must fight his natural man, but after death the natural man will be removed from him FOREVER!

1 Cor. 15:42-57 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; **it is raised in glory**: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God;

neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on **immortality**, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **CONCLUSION:**

This lesson was about the two natures of the saved. All mankind is born with a sinful nature. This sinful nature in scripture is called the “natural man.” When a person “gets saved,” there is a second nature given to that person that is perfect and holy. This new nature is “spiritual.” You saw in this lesson both the old “natural man” and his nature and the new “spiritual” nature strive within a saved person for preeminence.

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