

CHRISTIANITY

101

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

About

SIN & SALVATION
RESURRECTION & JUDGMENT

↑
HEAVEN

HELL
↓

THE NATURE OF MAN

◉ *The Nature of God* ◉

CHRISTIANITY 101

THE NATURE OF

MAN II

**CONFUSION ON THIS SUBJECT
HAS LED TO MANY OF THE
DIVISIONS IN “CHRISTIANITY”**

▶ "When you shall have been baptized, keep to a good life in the commandments of God so that you may preserve your baptism to the very end.

▶ I do not tell you that you will live here without sin, but they are venial sins which this life is never without.

▶ Baptism was instituted for all sins. For light sins, without which we cannot live, prayer was instituted. . . .

- ▶ But do not commit those sins on account of which you would have to be separated from the body of Christ.
Perish the thought!

▶ For those whom you see doing penance have committed crimes, either adultery or some other enormities.

▶ That is why they are doing penance. If their sins were light, daily prayer would suffice to blot them out. . . .

▶ In the Church, therefore, there are three ways in which sins are forgiven:

▶ in baptisms, in prayer, and in the greater humility of penance" (St. Augustine, Sermon to Catechumens on the Creed 7:15, 8:16).

**H. A. IRONSIDE DESCRIBED THIS
TYPE OF DISILLUSIONMENT AFTER
HAVING LABORED FOR YEARS
UNDER THE HOLINESS TEACHINGS
OF THE SALVATION ARMY:**

▶ “I reasoned that the Bible promised entire relief from indwelling sin to all who were wholly surrendered to the will of God.

▶ That I had thus surrendered seemed to me certain. Why then had I not been fully delivered from the carnal mind?

- ▶ It seemed to me that I had met every condition, and that God, on His part, had failed to perform what He had promised". H. A. Ironside, *Holiness: the False and the True* (Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Brothers, 1982), 28.

**GOD USES SEVERAL
PICTURES TO DESCRIBE THE
BELIEVER AS TWO MEN.**

THE INNER MAN AND THE OUTER MAN. II COR. 4:16

- ▶ Two men here. Outward and Inward
- ▶ The outward is perishing, the inward is kept by the Holy Spirit.

▶ Gal. 2:20

▶ Rom. 7:22-25

THERE IS A BATTLE BETWEEN THE TWO MEN.

- ▶ Two persons.
- ▶ Two beings

- ▶ Two births.
- ▶ Two sets of beliefs.
- ▶ Two sets of desires.

- ▶ Two sets of loyalties.
- ▶ Two masters.

- ▶ Paul pictures this perfectly in Phil. 3:10-16
- ▶ Even more clear is 1 John 3:6-9
- ▶ Remember Eph. 2:1-6

**THIS CAN BECOME A PAINFUL
STRUGGLE.**

▶ Rom. 8:18-23

▶ Phil. 3:20-21

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THREE MEN

THE NATURAL MAN

▶ Eph. 2:3

▶ I Cor. 2:14

- ▶ The desires of the flesh control him.
- ▶ He is governed by his physical senses.
- ▶ He has no spiritual discernment.

THE SPIRITUAL MAN

▶ I Cor. 2:13; 15

▶ This Christian makes all decisions based on one consideration:

What does the Bible say?

- ▶ This Christian lives for others. Gal. 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

▶ This Christian enjoys God and is at peace.

▶ Ro 8:6

▶ This Christian exhibits the fruit of the spirit. Gal. 5

THE CARNAL MAN

▶ Rom. 8:5; 7

▶ James Knox wrote: Though delivered from death (Heb. 2:14-15), raised to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6), and given deliverance from the former lusts (2 Peter 1:13-14), the carnal man lives as though he were still dead.

▶ He thinks on the things he thought on when he was dead. He is interested in the things he was interested in when he was dead.

- ▶ The Bible never replaced television, the church never replaced sports, modesty never replaced fashion, humility never replaced pride, witnessing never replaces gossip.

▶ The soul is saved, but the mind still wanders about in the tombs.” James Knox Rightly Dividing the Word Reconsidered. p. 219

I CORINTHIANS 3:1-3

THIS MAN IS:

▶ Angry

▶ Jealous

▶ Unforgiving

- ▶ Self-centered.
- ▶ The frequent and long-lasting divisions between himself and those in the church testify to everyone else that he is living like an unsaved man.

▶ He refuses to see the consequences of his actions.

▶ Ga 6:7-8

▶ The carnal Christian
gives his life for temporal
battles.

▶ He has greater interest in the things of the flesh than in things affecting the souls of men.

CONCLUSION

- ▶ Two Men: Inward and Outward—they are at war with each other.

THREE MEN

- ▶ Natural: lost
- ▶ Spiritual: Saved and surrendered to the Spirit.
- ▶ Carnal: Saved and mired in the flesh and this world.

WHO ARE YOU?

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THE NATURE OF

MAN II