

# The Natural Man, The Spiritual Man, The Carnal Man

<sup>14</sup> *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.* <sup>15</sup> *The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments,* <sup>16</sup> *for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.* <sup>1</sup> *Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly (carnal)—mere infants in Christ.* <sup>2</sup> *I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.* <sup>3</sup> *You are still worldly (carnal). For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly (carnal)? Are you not acting like mere humans?*

1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3 (NIV)

The World has Classifications of Humans

Economically: **Rich** or **Poor** or **Middle Class**

Academically: **Intellectual** or **Illiterate**

Sociologically: **Cultured** or **Uncultured**

*Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks (Gentiles) or the church of God—*  
1 Corinthians 10:32 (NIV)

*For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*  
1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV)

*“The natural man (the man without the Holy Spirit) does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him. He cannot understand them because they are spiritually appraised.”*  
1 Corinthians 2:14 (NIV)

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Presented by Pastor David Bellows

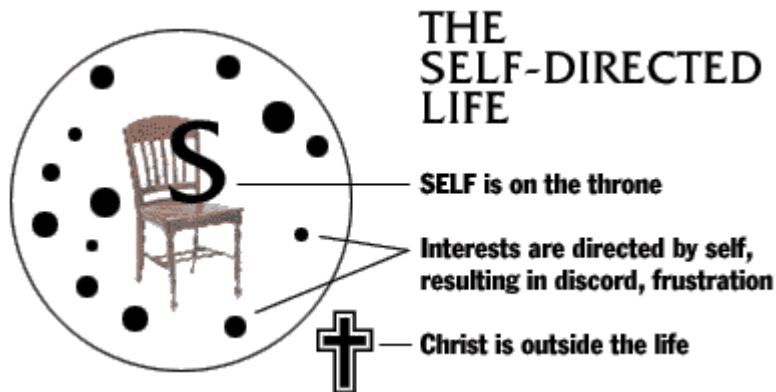
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Page 1 of 6 Pages

## Natural Man

(one who has not received Christ)



- 1) Man without the **Holy Spirit**. (V14)
- 2) No **appreciation** for the things of God.
- 3) Often good **moral** people but have no **spiritual** life.
- 4) The Natural Person is uncomfortable about **spiritual** things.
- 5) In a church they will **drop** out, **move** out or **lash** out.
- 6) Physically alive but spiritually **dead**.
- 7) Has not been **born again**.

*“May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV)

*“But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.*

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV)

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Page 2 of 6 Pages

## Spiritual Man

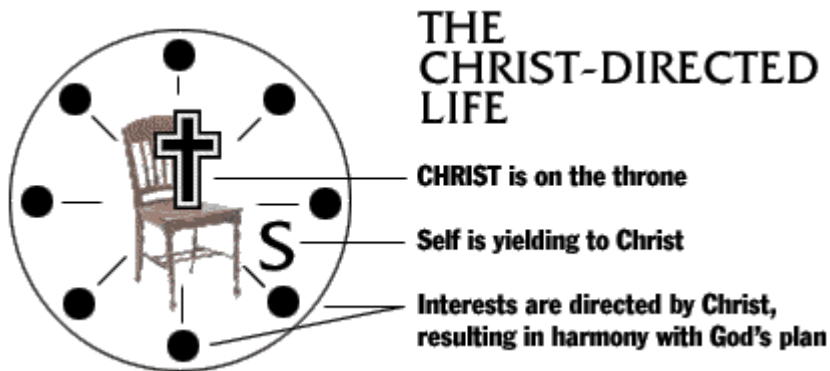
*“But the spiritual man has insight into everything. And that bothers and baffles the man of the world who can’t understand him at all.”* 1 Corinthians 2:15 (TLB)

<sup>15</sup> *The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments,* <sup>16</sup> *for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.* 1 Corinthians 2:15-16 (NIV)

- 1) Possesses the Ability to discern spiritual things. (V15)
- 2) Bothers and baffles the man of the world.
- 3) Dependable Joyful Happy, Full of Purpose

## Spiritual Man

(One who is directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit)



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November 25, 2018

Page 3 of 6 Pages

Christ-centered  
 Empowered by  
 the Holy Spirit  
 Introduces others  
 to Christ  
 Effective prayer life  
 Understands God's  
 Word  
 Trusts God  
 Obeys God



Love  
 Joy  
 Peace  
 Patience  
 Kindness  
 Faithfulness  
 Goodness

### The Carnal Man

*“I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly (or Carnal). (He’s talking to Christians, these are saved people with spiritual gifts.) Mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk not solid food because you weren’t ready for solid food. Indeed you’re still not ready. You’re still worldly. (You do what the world does – you don’t do what Christians should do.) For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men?”*  
 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (NIV)

### Carnal Man

(One who has received Christ, but who lives in defeat because is trying to live the Christian life in his own strength)



### THE SELF-DIRECTED LIFE

Self is on the throne

Christ dethroned and not allowed to direct the life

Interests are directed by self, often resulting in discord and frustration

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Page 4 of 6 Pages

**The Carnal Man** - Some or all of the following traits may characterize the Christian who does not fully trust God:

Ignorance of his spiritual heritage  
Unbelief  
Disobedience  
Loss of love for God and for others  
Poor prayer life  
No desire for Bible study



Legalistic attitude  
Impure thoughts  
Jealousy  
Guilt  
Worry  
Discouragement  
Critical spirit  
Frustration  
Aimlessness

1) Doesn't **MATURE** but remains childish. (3:1) *Mere infants in Christ*

*“(God) rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the depraved conduct of the lawless<sup>8</sup> for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard”* 2 Peter 2:7-8 (NIV)

2) Dangerous, **DEFECTIVE** diet. (3:2) *milk, not solid food*

*“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.”*

1 Peter 2:2 (NIV)

*“In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!<sup>13</sup> Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness.<sup>14</sup> But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.”*

Hebrews 5:12-14 (NIV)

*“For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”*

1 Corinthians 3:3 (KJV)

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Page 5 of 6 Pages

## **DISTINCTIVES OF CARNAL MAN**

3) Jealousy, **DISCORD**, **CLIQUES**.

- A) Pushes own **SELFISH AGENDA**, blames others.
- B) **DISSENSION** or bitter **CONFLICT**.
- C) The mind of Carnal Man is **DEATH**.

*“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”*

Romans 8:6 (KJV)