

THE NATURAL MAN

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14

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INTRO: Many times when someone goes to do something in which he or she is very nervous, another may say to them, "**JUST BE NATURAL.**" Now that sounds fine and is good in many aspects of life because it is important that we be ourselves rather than attempting to be someone else, but **THERE IS A TIME WHEN IT IS WRONG TO BE NATURAL!** When is that? Consider 1 Corinthians 2:14.

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DEFINITION OF THE WORD "NATURAL."

1) Webster's Dictionary

- a. Pertaining to nature.
- b. Formed by nature.
- c. Belonging to nature.
- d. BEING SUCH BECAUSE OF ONE'S INBORN ABILITIES.

2) The Scripture

- a. The corrupt desires and affections of the mind that describes the condition of mankind in Adam. (PSUCHIKOS)
- b. THE SINFUL STATE OF MANKIND.

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I. THE CONDITION OF THE NATURAL MAN

"RECEIVETH NOT THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD."

- A. He is Spiritually Dead - Ephesians 2:1
- B. He is Spiritually Blinded - 2 Corinthians 4:3,4
- C. He is Spiritually Empty - Romans 8:9
- D. He is Spiritually Hopeless - Ephesians 2:12

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NATURAL MAN

"THEY ARE FOOLISHNESS UNTO HIM."

Definition of "Foolishness."

-To be void of understanding and senseless of heart.

- A. No Knowledge of God Personally
The Contrast - John 17:3
- B. No Strength from God Daily
The Contrast - Psalm 46:1
- C. No Hope from God Eternally
The Contrast - Titus 2:13
- D. No Love from God Experienced
The Contrast - Romans 8:35-39
- E. No Promised from God Treasured
The Contrast - 2 Peter 1:4

F. No Knowledge of Scripture

The Contrast - John 14:26

ILLUSTRATION

III. THE CONSUMMATION OF THE NATURAL MAN

"CONDEMNATION" (JOHN 3:18; 36)

A. The Condemnation is Present

"Condemned already"

B. The Condemnation is Prospective

"Wrath of God Abideth on him"

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. THE CONVERSION OF THE NATURAL MAN

"YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN" (JOHN 3:3,5,7)

A. One must Recognize the Natural State before God - Romans 3:23

B. One must Recognize that Christ is the Savior - John 14:6

C. One must Receive Christ as PERSONAL Savior - Romans 10:13

ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION:

1) Examine yourself

2) Communicate to others