

Doctrine of the Natural Man

1 Corinthians 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.”

1. The natural person is totally dead in the spiritual realm. Perhaps you remember that time when the gospel was preached but there was no vital interest into what was said. Church was a duty not a delight. Why? Because there was no spiritual life.
2. The natural person has no eyes to see the glory of God. It is a high act of folly to try to get a person with no eyesight to see a picture on the wall. In the same way, it is spiritually naïve to believe a person who is spiritually blind can see anything spiritual.
3. The natural person has no ears to hear the voice of God. The only voice the lost person can hear, young or old, is a physical or natural one. Only when God quickens the heart and gives spiritual ears, will spiritual truth be heard.
4. The natural person has no heart to perceive the things of God. A lost person can read the Bible for a million years and only be able to understand natural knowledge of historical facts. There would be no ability to conceive of anything spiritually. A lot of people are bored with the Bible. Why? They have no heart to understand it.
5. The natural person has no thirst for the living waters of the Gospel. “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters!” This invitation is limited to the thirsty—nobody but the thirsty are invited. Then again, no one but the thirsty are interested.
6. The natural person has no desire to know Christ. Jesus, in the days of His flesh, preached the Gospel and sent out His apostles to preach the Gospel. But the worldly men at large had no desire to come to Him or to know Him.
7. The natural man has no need to come to Christ. Why should a person come to Christ? If there is the ability to make money, to work in this world and to do a lot of things, why should a person who is only looking for things to satisfy his flesh come to Christ? He will not, unless there is first a divine drawing.
8. The natural person has no fear of God. You can preach to the natural unregenerate person about the horrors of hell, the awfulness of the Great Judgment Day and a never-ending eternity, but it does not touch the heart any more than preaching to a sheep or a cow.
9. The natural person has no protection from Satanic powers and deception. Only the providence of God keeps individuals from going to the depths of depravity and despair. The “strong man, Satan” keeps souls in his service and under his control and will never let them go without a fight.

10. The natural person dwells in a dry and a barren land, and yet loves to have it so. Oh, what an awful picture of the spiritual condition and total inability of the natural man the Bible portrays.