

The Spiritual Man -2

Spiritual vs. Carnal

- As we conclude our study of pursuing holiness, we are contrasting the carnal (natural) man with the spiritual man.
- Last week we noted what the natural man is like - worldly and pursuing ungodly conduct.

Spiritual vs. Carnal

- We talked about what it means to be spiritual and what it does not mean.
- We also noted that we are called upon to be spiritual -

Galatians 6:1

1 Corinthians 2:15-16

Romans 8:1

Spiritual vs. Carnal

- Finally, we noted how the ways of the carnal man and spiritual man are incompatible

Matthew 6:24

Galatians 5:17

- Today...

Some Qualities of the Spiritual Man

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He is transformed

- **Romans 12:1-2**

The old man is buried - **Romans 6:4**

A new creation - **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He sets his mind on things above
- - **Colossians 3:1-10**
 - His life is hidden in Christ - **3:3**
 - He puts to death earthly members
 - **3:4-9, cf. 1 Peter 4:1-3**
 - He puts on the new man - **3:10**
 - He is renewed in knowledge - **3:10**
- thus he is growing - **2 Peter 3:18**

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He brings every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ
- - **2 Corinthians 10:4-5**
 - While a challenging task, here is one so focused on the serving the Lord, even His thoughts are consistently and continually about Him.
- **Matthew 15:11, 17-20** - He controls what goes into His mind

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He walks by the spirit and does not fulfill the lusts of the flesh -
Galatians 5:16, 22-25

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He possesses the fruit of the Spirit and wisdom from above
- - **Galatians 5:16, 22-23** - love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness & self-control
- - **James 3:17-18** – first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, etc.
- - a disposition that regulates your conduct

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He will concede that he belongs to the Lord
- - **Acts 27:23** – “God to whom I belong”
 - **Galatians 2:20**,
 - **1 Corinthians 6:19-20** - we have been purchased

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He thinks of others
- - **Philippians 2:1-5** - esteeming others better than himself, looking out for their interests
 - **1 Corinthians 13:5**
 - **Romans 15:1-2**

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He has no confidence in the flesh
 - **Philippians 3:3-11** - we know that the flesh will let us down, thus he walks away from worldly pursuits that hinder.
 - e.g., **1 Timothy 6:17** - concerning the rich
 - **Matthew 6:19-21** - no treasures on earth
 - **2 Corinthians 2:11, 1 Peter 5:8-9**
 - thus he is always alert and sober

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He knows he needs the will of God and seeks it
- We must approach His word properly.
cf. Romans 7:14 - the law is spiritual...
 - **Jeremiah 10:23** - it is not in man to direct his own steps
 - **Psalms 1:2** - he delights and meditates in it day and night
 - **Hebrews 5:12-14** - matures
 - **Colossians 2:8, Ephesians 4:12-15** - he is not cheated through the philosophies of men

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He reflects the image of God and Christ in his body
- **Romans 8:29** - we conform to the image of His Son
1 Corinthians 11:1, Ephesians 5:1-2 - Imitate Christ & God

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He views life in light of eternity
 - This life is temporary - **James 4:14, 1:10, 1 John 2:17**
 - **2 Timothy 4:7-8** - life is about preparing for heaven
 - **Matthew 6:19-21** - where his treasure is
 - **e.g. Hebrews 11:13-16** - they embraced life anticipating a better, heavenly country.

Qualities of the spiritual man

- He views the afflictions of this world as “light” in comparison
2 Corinthians 4:7ff, 17-18

Qualities of the spiritual man

- Everything he does is about God!
- It is his choice!

Romans 6:16-18 - God does not force anyone into obedience

- But you ARE choosing

- And your choice has eternal consequences

- **2 Corinthians 5:10**

- **Deuteronomy 30:19** - “choose life”

Being spiritual is the desire to be right with God, to want to make the right decisions in every walk of life and in knowing what we are and what we do. It is how we look at life continually.

Jimmy Tuten, 1986

Spiritual or Carnal
Which path are you
choosing?

Let us pray!