

The Study of Man

Anthropology

- I.** A human is composed of three elements: body, soul, and spirit (1 Thes. 5:23).
 - 1. Our earthly body is likened to temporary housing.
 - 2. The human soul is immaterial, animates the body through blood, has a survival instinct, interprets the five senses to the mind, and is the seat of emotions.
 - 3. The human spirit is immaterial, and is the realm of rational thought.
 - 4. All three components operate simultaneously.
- II.** The 'natural' man, unsaved (1 Cor. 2:14).
 - 1. Belongs to the spiritual family of Satan (1 Jn. 3:9-10).
 - 2. Has no relationship with God—dead spiritually, separated from God (Ps. 51:5; Rom. 6:23).
 - 3. Primarily operates ruled by his soul (1 Cor. 2:14).
 - 4. Cannot understand spiritual truth's value, can know facts.
 - 5. His heart is darkened, no illumination, no Holy Spirit (Rom. 1:21).
- III.** The only applicable Scripture for the natural man is the Gospel.
 - 1. Not the whole word of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17).
 - 2. Paul's preaching at Corinth before they were saved (1 Cor. 2:1-2).
- IV.** It takes Divine enabling for the natural man to believe the Gospel.
 - 1. The Holy Spirit convicts/convinces a person (Jn. 16:7-11).
 - 1) Of sin—the person is a sinner, in the state of not believing God (vv. 8-9 *cf.* 1 Cor. 15:3).
 - 2) Of righteousness—only God is righteous hence the person is unrighteous: Christ states He is God.
 - 3) Of judgment, sin has consequences, even Satan is judged (Heb. 9:27; Is. 14:12, 15).
 - 2. The Gospel has life (1 Pet. 1:23, 25).
 - 3. The Holy Spirit removes both the natural and Satanic blindness (2 Cor. 4:3-6).
 - 4. The light of the Gospel shines in the heart (v. 6).
 - 1) Eradicating the darkness.
 - 2) Giving experiential knowledge from God about the Person of Jesus Christ, His sacrificial work.