

# Three Types of Men

The Natural, the Spiritual, and the Carnal Man of 1 Corinthians 2:9-3:4

\*This study is based on a class from the GIBS course *Biblical Distinctions*.

## I. God enlightens those who are rightly related to Him (2:9-13)

### A. Apart from the Spirit of God you cannot understand the deep things of God (2:9)

1. You can understand the things eyes can \_\_\_\_\_, ears can \_\_\_\_\_, and the mind \_\_\_\_\_.
2. You cannot understand the things that cannot be perceived with the physical \_\_\_\_\_ or the natural \_\_\_\_\_.

\*God's statements on man's inability to understand Him:

- + Psalm 94:11
- + Proverbs 3:5-6
- + Proverbs 16:25
- + Proverbs 28:26
- + Isaiah 55:8-9
- + Jeremiah 9:23
- + Hosea 10:13

### B. Through the Spirit of God, you can understand spiritual things (2:10-13)

1. The Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ (vs 10); He is the revealer.
2. The Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 11); without Him, we do not.
3. The Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 12); so that we can know.
4. The Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 13); it is important to be rightly related to Him.

\* How should these truths impact the way we approach the revelation of God?

## II. God controls those who are rightly related to Him (2:14-3:4)

### A. The NATURAL Man (2:14)

1. Dominated by the \_\_\_\_\_ (Greek: psuchikos)
2. Not saved – does not have the \_\_\_\_\_
3. Spiritual assets – \_\_\_\_\_
4. Spiritual abilities – does not \_\_\_\_\_ the things of God, for they are foolishness to him and he cannot \_\_\_\_\_ him.
5. Spiritual need – hear and accept the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (1 Cor 1:18)

### B. The SPIRITUAL Man (2:15-16)

1. Dominated by the \_\_\_\_\_ (Greek: pneumatikos)
2. Saved – \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit
3. Spiritual assets – \_\_\_\_\_ with the Spirit (Eph 5:18)
4. Spiritual abilities – unhindered capacity to \_\_\_\_\_ the things of God (John 14:26, 16:13)
5. Spiritual need – \_\_\_\_\_ to walk in the Spirit by faith (Gal 5:16)

### C. The CARNAL Man (3:1-4)

1. Dominated by the \_\_\_\_\_ (Greek: sarkikos)
2. Saved – \_\_\_\_\_ by the Spirit
3. Spiritual assets – \_\_\_\_\_ like the natural man (like an unbeliever)
4. Spiritual abilities – understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of the word only
5. Spiritual need – \_\_\_\_\_ sin and \_\_\_\_\_ by faith (1 John 1:9, 2 Cor 5:7-9)