

## Human nature (Living for self)

**The corrupt world is a byproduct of living for human nature** - 2 Peter 1:4...escape the corruption in the world CAUSED BY evil desires.

**All humans followed human nature at one time and were doomed for eternal disaster. God provided THE out.** - Eph 2:1-5-As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 **ALL OF US also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.** 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved.

**There are two choices; human nature and Divine nature. One is living for self, while the other is living for God. We must choose and we CAN'T do both** - Rom 8:5-8 - 5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, NOR CAN IT DO SO. 8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

**Human nature living is passed down from our ancestors** - 1 Peter 1:18-21 - 18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 20 He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. 21 Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and **so your faith and hope are in God.**

**Evidence of Human nature are clear** - Gal 5:19-21 -19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that **those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

### Examples of multiple occasions and ways when man succumbs to Human Nature

**Man allowed himself to be talked into giving in to self** - Gen 3:3-6 - 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. 5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 **When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.**

- **Because of self, the total rejection of anything going against God doesn't happen**
- **We allow things to make us question God**

**Man collectively giving into self** - Gen 11:1-9 - Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As men moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. 3 They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, "**Come, let US build OURSELVES a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that WE may make a name FOR OURSELVES** and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth." 5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. 6 The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." 8 So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel — because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

**Man depended on self, instead of God** - Num 13:31-14:12 - 31 But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are." 32 And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, "The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. 33 We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them." 14:1 That night all the people of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. 2 All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this desert! 3 **Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?"** 4 And they said to each other, "**We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt.**" 5 Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there. 6 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes 7 and said to the entire Israelite assembly, "The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. 8 If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. 9 Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them." 10 But the whole assembly talked about stoning them. Then the glory of the Lord appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the Israelites. 11 The Lord said to Moses, "**How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?** 12 I will strike them down with a plague and destroy them, but I will make you into a nation greater and stronger than they."

**The trend continues, where man keeps walking in the path that seems right to him** - Judg 17:6 In those days there was no king in Israel: **EVERY MAN DID THAT WHICH WAS RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES.** ASV (Judg 21:25)

**Human nature living is by far the most common way of living even among those that profess to be Christian** - 2 Tim 3:1-5 - But **mark this**: There will be **terrible times** in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.

**Living for human nature guides man to distort Worship and Spiritual feeding to fit man's desire instead of glorifying God** - 2 Tim 4:3-4 - 3 For the time will come when men WILL NOT put up with sound doctrine. Instead, **TO SUIT THEIR OWN DESIRES, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear**. 4 **They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths**.

**We must Spiritually and consciously not live for human nature** - Rom 8:12-13 - 12 Therefore, brothers, **WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION** — but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. 13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, YOU WILL DIE; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, YOU WILL LIVE,

**We must recognize living for self is a danger of self to self** - Rom 7:14-25 - 14 We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. 16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. 18 **I KNOW THAT NOTHING GOOD LIVES IN ME, THAT IS, IN MY SINFUL NATURE**. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do — this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. 21 So I find this law at work: **When I want to do good, evil is right there with me**. 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. 24 **WHAT A WRETCHED MAN I AM! Who will rescue me from this body of death?** 25 Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

**How to live the Divine Nature, instead of the Human nature**

**Access the Divine nature, which is offered by God** - 2 Peter 1:3-4 - 3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, **so that through them you may PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE NATURE** and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

**We must Deny self** - Matt 16:24-25 - 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, **HE MUST deny himself and take up his cross and follow me**. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.

**Do not give Human nature desires a say in your life** - 1 Peter 2:11 Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to **abstain from sinful desires**, which war against your soul.

**In order not to live to please self, consciously live in spirit** - Gal 5:16-17 - 16 So I say, **LIVE BY THE SPIRIT, AND YOU WILL NOT GRATIFY THE DESIRES OF THE SINFUL NATURE**. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. **THEY ARE IN CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER**, so that you do not do what you want.

**Live "God purposed" NO Matter what you desire** - 1 Cor 9:26-27 - 26 Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27 No, **I BEAT MY BODY AND MAKE IT MY SLAVE** so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

**We react based on God no matter what is displayed or how we think**- 2 Cor 10:4-5 - 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

**NEVER do anything based on "what I want" or "how I see it"** - Phil 2:3-4 - 3 **DO NOTHING** out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

**Make your goal for EVERYTHING to glorify God** - 1 Cor 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, DO IT ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.

**Do EVERYTHING representing Jesus and giving thanks to Jesus** - Col 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**When it comes down to it, there are just two live choices, and that choice will decide our eternal outcome** - Gal 6:7-8 - 7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature WILL REAP DESTRUCTION; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit WILL REAP ETERNAL LIFE.

**Part of what identifies a True Christian is eliminating human nature** - Gal 5:24-25 - 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus HAVE CRUCIFIED the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.