

DISCERNING THE NATURAL MAN, THE CARNAL MAN AND THE SPIRITUAL MAN:

1 Corinthians 2:14-3:4

Who is the natural man? Is he saved? Is he walking with God? What are his traits?

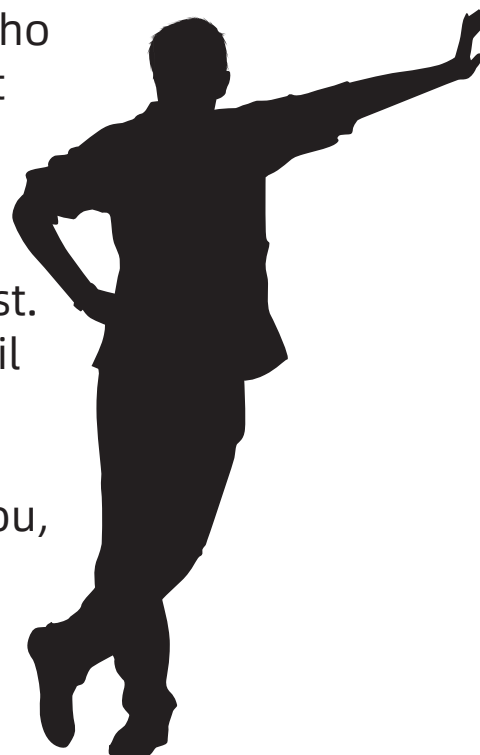
Who is the carnal person? Is he saved? Is he walking with God? What are his traits?

Who is the spiritual person? Is he walking with God? What are his traits?

What is a babe in Christ?

14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. 16 For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

3 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?



Answers:

The natural man is not saved and cannot walk with God because he is not saved. His traits are that he considers the things of God foolishness, and he can't understand them. He has no spiritual discernment.

The Carnal person is saved and NOT walking with God. His traits are that he has envy, division, strife and he staying a baby for a long time and is not growing. He is NOT growing because he is not walking by faith. He is not trusting God with his daily life. He is not heeded God's word and is very self-focused. Paul chides them because they are still babes when they should be grown up.

The spiritual person is saved and is walking with God. He is directed and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His traits are good spiritual discernment, and no one can understand/judge Him. He is following God and not man's ways and he will have a way of life that eludes the understanding of unbelievers. He has the mind of Christ. He has Christlike thinking!

A babe in Christ is a saved person who is a new believer. All new believers are babes in Christ. The problem arises when a Christian is Carnal he won't grow and he stays a baby for far too long.