

# Human Nature

Human nature is heretical and takes to error as instinctively as ducks to water.

**We will easily accept as true what is said frequently and loudly, without making the personal effort to think it through.**

**Genesis 3:1** [King James] *“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”*

The Hebrew word translated “*serpent*” is “*nâchâsh*” from a root word meaning enchantment.

We might in modern terms say that the serpent, one name given to Satan [**Revelation 12:9**], had charisma, a bright attractive light.

Satan originally was named “*Lucifer*” [**Isaiah 14:12**], meaning light bringer, but his personal pride was his downfall. [**Isaiah 14:13-15**]

In the same way that Eve was led astray by Satan, we can be led to believe the words of a charismatic speaker.

**2 Corinthians 11:14-15** [NIV] *“And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.”*

**Satan is still deceiving humanity through his ministers.**

**Romans 1:18** [NIV] *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness,”*

**God’s wrath is directed against such people.**

**Romans 1:19-20** [NIV] *“since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”*

There are certain qualities of the Creator God that can be known more or less clearly by all the human race.

But such knowledge is inadequate, it forms little more than the frame of the total picture.

The details are all unknown and undiscoverable, so that we must depend upon divine revelation as given by God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

**John 16:13** [NIV] *“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”*

**The Holy Spirit working actively within us will lead us into the unknowable truth.**

Until this divine revelation is active in us our picture of the Creator God is obscure and indistinct.

The finest human minds can look at scripture and see things that are **not** there and fail to see the things that **are** revealed.

Such people demand to know, and though they are blinded to or reject God's Word, the Christian Bible, they will know, regardless, in some manner that will be satisfactory to themselves.

Those who love God's Word and seek to harmonise their lives to its instructions are often dogmatic.

Such an attitude can lead to cocksureness that is near to personal pride, unless controlled by humility, knowing that their knowledge is totally dependent on the work of the Holy Spirit within them. **[John 15:4-5; John 16:13]**

Such dogmatism has at the back of it the strong "*thus saith Lord*" of prophet and apostle.

Personally I have experience the most stubborn dogmatism is found among those who quote no-one and claim for their spiritual authority nothing higher than their own opinions.

This follows the popular notion that everyone is capable of discovering for themselves the true way into heaven, however that is seen, and that one person's belief is as good as another's.

Another notion is that no-one has the right to question the belief of anyone else or to try to influence them in any way in religious matters.

This leads to the practice of complete tolerance towards every expression of religious belief, however base or ill-founded it may be.

All this may be offered with mis-founded charity and is the approach of politicians who seek to please everyone, and liberal ministers who find it profitable to do so.

Moses who prostrated himself before the presence of God when He spoke to him out of the burning bush **[Exodus 3:1-5]** would **never** respond in such a manner to God's Word.

John the apostle who had heard the voice of Jesus could **never** trifle with religion nor be tolerant in things of God that are eternal, nor ever compromise the truth to stay on good terms with anyone.

**However unpopular we may become as a result of this dogmatic, uncompromising attitude we must cling to the knowledge that all humans are by nature heretics and can never know redeeming truth until they are enlightened from God by and through the Holy Spirit inspired scriptures found in the Christian Bible.**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** [King James] *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."*

We can never be kind to those we meet by ignoring their perilous error and let them go un-rebuked and uncorrected.

**1 Peter 3:15-16** [NIV] *"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."*

This rebuke must be done gently and out of love for that person, also our personal conduct must illustrate our words of correction.

**No person knows enough to be sure they are right about spiritual things until they have submitted their thoughts and words to the test of God's thoughts and words as found in the Christian Bible.**

Intelligence, experience nor brilliance of mind are enough to know the truth for the Word of God, the Christian Bible, is the final measure and court of appeal.

**Psalms 119:104** [NIV] *“I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path.”*

As we gain understanding of the truth from God’s Word, the Christian Bible, we will hate every wrong path that human nature, corrupted by Satan, is taking in our own life and the lives of all other human beings.