

1 Pet. 4:14

1. HUMILIATING RETROSPECT. "We ourselves also were," V.3
  1. This verse gives a dark picture of man in the natural state.
  
3. THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF HUMAN NATURE (INward)
  1. Human nature is foolish. Rom. 1:22
    1. Fools despise knowledge, wisdom, instruction. Proverbs 1:7
    2. He is self-sufficient, self-confident. Prov. 14:16
    3. Foolish make a mock at sin. Prov. 14:9
    4. The foolish say there is no God. Psalms 14:1; 53:1
    5. The power of the fool. Proverbs 13:20
  2. Human nature is disobedient.
    1. Disobedience forfeits God's favor. 1 Sam. 13:14
    2. Disobedience provokes anger. Psalms 78:40; Col. 3:6
    3. Warnings against disobedience. Jer. 12:17
  3. Human nature is deceived.
    1. Human nature is separated from Christ who is the Light of the world. John 9:5; 1 John 1:7
    2. Human nature has no pole star or compass to steer by.
    3. The natural man. 1 Cor. 2:14
  
4. THE OUTWARD CHARACTER OF HUMAN NATURE.
  1. Its service was impure. "serving divers lusts and pleasures."
    1. The pleasures of this life are sinful and debasing. Luke 8:14
  2. It implied a life of malice and envy.
    1. Prating against us with malicious words. 3 John 10
    2. Envy a work of the flesh. Gal. 5:21
    3. Envy leads to every evil work. James 3:16
    4. It implies a life of hatefulness... a return of hate for hate. 1 John 2:9-11
  
5. ONE THINGS INFERRED FROM THIS INSPIRED LANGUAGE OF PAUL
  1. The possibility of moral improvement.
    1. The rough stone can be polished. David's five smooth stone. 1 Sam. 17:40. ASPERITIES: Rough places, Harshness, sharpness of temper.
    2. The unfertile soil can be made fertile.
    3. The wilderness can blossom as the rose.

TITUS 3:5

1. "Suffer it to be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." Matt. 3:13-15

RIGHTEOUSNESS:

1. Jesus made baptism a part of righteousness.
2. Therefore baptism is a part of God's way in making man righteous.

HE SENT HIS SPIRIT TO RENEW MAN:

1. The Spirit came to the apostles. The Spirit through them preached to the world.
2. Faith produced in this way, changed the heart of man, directed the life anew.
3. Baptized into Christ putting off the old man of sin, arose to a new life in Christ.