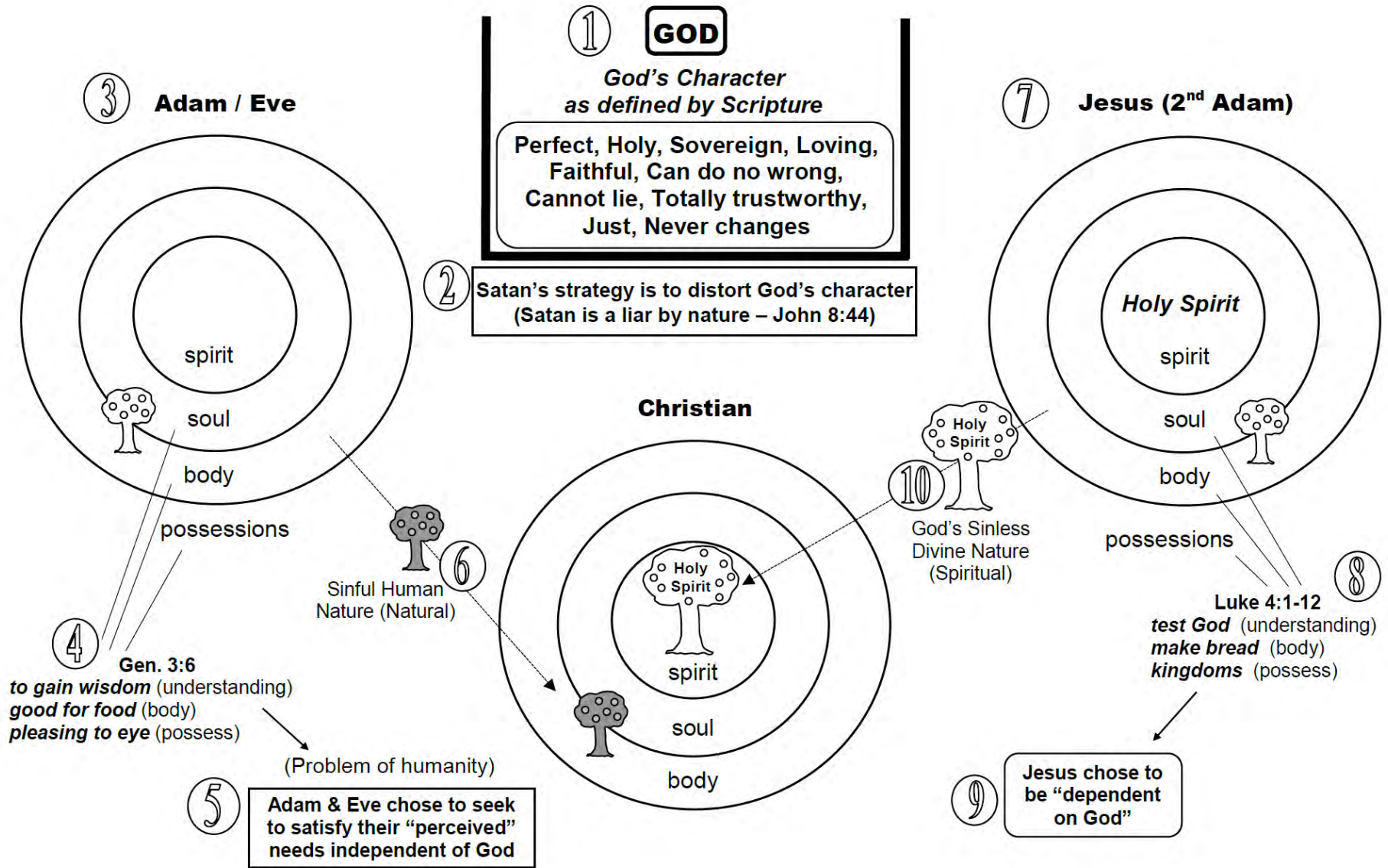


# How I Received My Human Nature & God's Divine Nature



# How I Received My Human Nature and God's Divine Nature - Guide

The main purpose of this lesson is to help clarify the events which have led to my present condition as **a believer having two natures**. A number of foundational Biblical principles will be introduced which should help me to more easily understand other truths as they are presented in subsequent lessons.

① **The Character of God** --- It is important to understand the significance of Biblical terms that describe His attributes. His attributes will be reinforced, as I allow the Holy Spirit to speak to me **through His written Word**.

**IMPORTANT: The main purpose of presenting the attributes of God's character is to demonstrate how reasonable it is to trust Him.** As an unbeliever I was accustomed to trusting in myself, but as a believer I need to form the habit of trusting God in my daily decisions. I must reason out that if God's character is as portrayed in the Bible, then it is very **logical** to trust Him completely, and very **illogical** not to trust Him. There is **no** reasonable logic for not yielding to Him.

A major reason for distrusting God is my tendency to impute to God **my** character. If God were like me then it would be quite **reasonable** to distrust Him.

## A Sampling of Verses Related to God's Character

Take some time now to read (aloud if possible) the following verses on God's character.

### GOD IS LOVE

1 John 4:16 ... **God is love**,...

Rom. 5:8 **God proves His own love for us** in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!

John 3:16 "**For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son**,..."

1 John 3:16 **This is how we have come to know love: He laid down His life for us**. ...

### GOD IS SOVEREIGN

Job 34:14-15 If He put His mind to it and withdrew the spirit and breath He gave, **every living thing would perish** together and mankind would return to the dust.

Prov. 21:30 **No** wisdom, **no** understanding, and **no** counsel will prevail against the LORD.

Isa. 46:11 ... Yes, **I** have spoken; so **I will** also bring it about. **I** have planned it; **I will** also do it.

Dan. 4:35 All the inhabitants of the earth are counted **as nothing**, and **He does what He wants** with the army of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth. There is **no one** who can hold back His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

Acts 4:24 ... they all raised their voices to God and said, "Master, **You are the One who made the heaven, the earth, and the sea, and everything in them**."

## GOD IS RIGHTEOUS, HOLY AND PURE. HE CANNOT LIE, HE CAN DO NO WRONG

Deut. 32:3-4 Declare the greatness of our God! The Rock—His work is perfect; **all His ways are entirely just**. A faithful God, **without prejudice**, **He is righteous and true**.  
Lev. 19:2 “Speak to the entire Israelite community and tell them: Be holy because **I, Yahweh your God, am holy**.”  
Job 34:10 **It is impossible for God to do wrong, and for the Almighty to act unjustly**.  
Psa. 18:30 God—His way is **perfect**....  
Isa. 57:15 For the High and Exalted One who lives forever, **whose name is Holy** ...  
Hab. 1:13 **Your eyes are too pure to look on evil**,...  
Luke 1:49 Because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and **His name is holy**.  
Heb. 6:18 ... **it is impossible for God to lie**,...  
Rom. 3:25-26 God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of His blood—to be received by faith. ... **He did it to demonstrate His righteousness** at the present time, so as to be **just** and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. (NIV)

## GOD IS PERFECT

Deut. 32:3-4 Declare the greatness of our God! The Rock—His work is **perfect**....  
2 Sam. 22:31 God—**His way is perfect**; the word of the LORD is pure....  
Matt. 5:48 ... **your heavenly Father is perfect**.

## GOD NEVER CHANGES

Psa. 102:25-27 Long ago You established the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, **but You will endure**; all of them will wear out like clothing. You will change them like a garment, and they will pass away. **But You are the same, and Your years will never end**.  
Malachi 3:6 “**Because I, Yahweh, have not changed**,...”  
James 1:17 Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights; **with Him there is no variation or shadow cast by turning**.

## GOD IS FAITHFUL, TOTALLY TRUSTWORTHY AND DEPENDABLE

Deut. 32:3-4 Declare the greatness of our God! ... **A faithful God**,...  
Psa. 33:18-21 Now **the eye of the LORD is on those** who fear Him—those who depend on His faithful love **to deliver** them from death and **to keep them alive** in famine. We wait for Yahweh; He is **our help and shield**. For our hearts rejoice in Him because we trust in His holy name.  
Psa. 34:4-8 I (*David*) sought the LORD, and He answered me and **delivered me from all** my fears. ... This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and **saved him from all** his troubles. **The Angel of the LORD encamps around those** who fear Him, and rescues them. Taste and see that the LORD is good. How happy is the man who takes **refuge** in Him!  
Psa. 36:5 **LORD, Your faithful love reaches to heaven, Your faithfulness to the clouds**.  
Psa. 86:15 But You, Lord, are a **compassionate** and **gracious** God, **slow to anger** and **rich in faithful love and truth**.

Jer. 29:11 “For I know **the plans I have for you**”—this is the LORD’s declaration—“plans for **your welfare**, not for disaster, to give you **a future** and **a hope**.”

Rom. 8:28 We know that **all** things work together for the good of those who love God: those who are called according to His purpose.

1 Cor. 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to humanity. **God is faithful**, and **He will not allow** you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation He will also provide **a way of escape** so that you are able to bear it.

1 Thess. 5:24 **He who calls you is faithful**, who also will do it.

2 Thess. 3:3 But **the Lord is faithful**;...

2 Tim. 2:13 If we are faithless, **He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself**.

1 Peter 4:19 So those who suffer **according to God’s will** should, while doing what is good, **entrust themselves to a faithful Creator**.

②

**Satan’s strategy** --- is to persuade me that God is **not trustworthy**, by undermining my confidence in **God’s character**. **Example**: In Genesis 3:1-5 he sought to instill doubt, insinuating that God is a liar, suggesting that God did not have their best interest at heart, and implying that He was withholding that which in some way would be good for them. If God did not love them, how then could He be trusted?

Gen. 3:1-5 Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “**Did God really say**, ‘You can’t eat from **any** tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’” “**No! You will not die**,” the serpent said to the woman. “In fact, God knows that when you eat it **your eyes will be opened** and you will be **like God, knowing** good and evil.”

③

When Adam and Eve were created they were made **perfect**, as was all creation. They were complete and **totally** satisfied, not lacking in any way. Everything they did was in total harmony with God’s character. **Death did not exist before that time**.

Rom. 5:12 ... just as sin entered the world **through one man**, and **death through sin**, in this way death spread to all men, because all sinned.

1 Cor. 15:21-22 For since **death** came through a man, ... **in Adam all die**,...

④⑤

Adam and Eve believed Satan’s lie about God’s character and ate the fruit, choosing to pursue self-satisfaction “**independent**” of God. The choice to live independent from God was evident in **three areas**:

1. The **human understanding** (desirable for obtaining wisdom)
2. The **appetites of the body** (good for food), and
3. **Possessions** (delightful to look at).

(Temptations also fall into one of these three areas.) It is important to see this “**predisposition toward independence**” as **the “root” problem of humanity** and one of the driving forces behind the global and individual resistance to God.

Gen. 3:6 Then the woman saw that the tree was **good for food** and **delightful to look at**, and that it was **desirable for obtaining wisdom**. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

6 Every person born into the **human race** inherits the sinful human nature (*pictured as a dark tree*) of Adam, **through their biological father**. Consequently, every human is born with a **disposition of resistance** toward God.

Gen. 5:3 ... Adam ... fathered a son **in his likeness**, according to **his image**,  
Gal. 5:16-23 ... For **the flesh desires what is against the Spirit**,...

7 Jesus was born into the human race, but **without a sinful human father**. As the **second Adam**, He was born with the same **sinless** human nature that Adam had before he fell. The righteous character of Jesus, as seen in His life, is what God had originally intended for Adam.

1 Cor. 15:45-46 ... The first man Adam became a living being; the **last Adam** became a **life-giving Spirit**....

Rom. 5:19 For just as through one man's disobedience the many were made **sinners**, so also through the one man's obedience the many will be made **righteous**.

8 9 Jesus was tempted in the **same three areas** as Adam, but Jesus chose to entrust Himself into God's care instead of believing Satan's enticement to seek to live independent of God.

10 **Upon believing**, I as a new believer was born into the **spiritual race**, and received the divine nature **in the Person of the Holy Spirit**. **Important**: The sinful human nature can **never** be improved. (See Gal. 5:17 below.)

John 3:3, 6 Jesus replied, I assure you: Unless someone is **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Whatever is **born of the flesh** is flesh, and whatever is **born of the Spirit** is spirit.

Rom. 7:14-25 For I know that **nothing good lives in me**, that is, **in my flesh**. So I discover this principle: When I want to do what is good, **evil is with me**. For **in my inner self** I joyfully agree with God's law. But I see a different law **in the parts of my body**, waging war against the law of **my mind** and taking me prisoner to the law of sin **in the parts of my body**. So then, **with my mind I myself** am a slave to the law of God, but **with my flesh**, to the law of sin.

Gal. 5:16-23 I say then, walk **by the Spirit** and you will not carry out **the desire of the flesh**. For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are **opposed to each other**. Now **the works of the flesh** are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. But **the fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control.