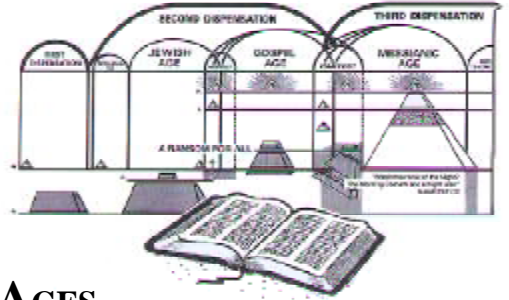




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THE DIVINE PLAN OF THE AGES

STUDY 10

SPIRITUAL AND HUMAN NATURES SEPARATE AND DISTINCT

NAME: _____

PHONE: () _____

- ◆ BEFORE filling in the blanks, please prayerfully **study** the 78 paragraphs and the scriptures cited with the questions. We suggest that you number the paragraphs in your book.
- ◆ Return your answers to us. **PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE.** Our Canadian and International friends may make special arrangements for the postage.
- ◆ Your answers will be checked and returned to you for your future studies.
- ◆ **STUDY 11** will be sent when you have completed this lesson.

1. The Christian **CHURCH** will receive a change of nature from the human to the **DIVINE**. (2 Pet. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:38, 40) All the obedient families of the earth will experience **RESTITUTION**. (Acts 3:19-21)

2. Will the obedient of the masses of mankind be as completely saved from the fall as those who become partakers of the divine nature? **YES**

3. Was Adam created perfect? (Gen. 1:27, 31) **YES** The incorrect view that man must become spiritual in order to reach perfection leads to **CONFUSION**.

4. Who are the two perfect men who have lived on the earth? **ADAM** and **JESUS**. Fallen man can reason with the Creator because man was made in the **IMAGE** of God.

5. Who is the ruler over all things? **JEHOVAH** Adam was made ruler over all **EARTHLY** things.

6. Adam was given dominion over the **FISH** of the sea, the **FOWL** of the air, and over **ALL** the lower animals. (Psalm 8:5-8) Man was made a little *degree* lower than the **ANGELS**. (Hebrews 2:7)

7. Man will eventually become king of the **EARTH**. The *man* Christ **JESUS** tasted death for every man. (Hebrews 2:9)

8. Does a little lower in *degree* mean a little less perfect? **NO** Would a perfect horse be lower than a perfect man? **YES**

Please fill in the chart showing the various grades of life and minerals.

<u>HEAVENLY</u> OR SPIRITUAL	<u>EARTHLY</u> OR ANIMAL	VEGETABLE DOMAIN	MINERAL DOMAIN
<u>DIVINE</u>	<u>HUMAN</u>	Trees	<u>GOLD</u>
	<u>BRUTE</u>	<u>SHRUBS</u>	<u>SILVER</u>
	Fowl	Grasses	Copper
Angelic	<u>FISH</u>	<u>MOSESSES</u>	<u>IRON</u>

9. Does perfecting a nature change a nature? **NO** The **DIVINE** nature is superior to all spiritual natures.

10. The highest grade of *mineral* is inferior to the lowest grade of *vegetable* because in vegetation there is **LIFE**. The highest grade of *vegetable* is lower than the lowest grade of *animal* life because in *animal* life there is conscience of **EXISTENCE**.

11. Sin has changed man's **FEATURES** as well as his **CHARACTER**. The effect of sin in multiplied generations is that the likeness of **GOD** is almost **OBLITERATED**. In the year 1886 the average length of life was **30** years. Is the average length of life much higher now? **YES** Adam was **930** years old when he died. (Gen. 5:5) Will man be restored to his original perfection, if obedient, during the Mediatorial reign of Christ? (Romans 5:18, 19) **YES** What did Adam lose for himself and his race? **LIFE** and an **EARTHLY** paradise. Who came to seek and to save that which was lost? (Luke 19:10) **JESUS**

12. In order to be a ransom for man, it was necessary for our Lord to receive a change of nature from the spiritual to the HUMAN. (Philippians 2:7, 8) Our Lord was higher than the ANGELS in his *prehuman* condition (Hebrews 2:16)

13. Since our Lord's resurrection, he now has the DIVINE nature. (Philippians 2:9)

14. Are the divine, angelic and human natures separate and distinct? YES As a man, was Jesus perfect? YES

15. Did Jesus keep the law perfectly? YES Was it necessary for Jesus to be a perfect man in order to be a corresponding price for Adam? YES (1 Timothy 2:5, 6)

16. Since Jesus in the flesh was a perfect man, does it prove that a perfect man is not an angel? YES

17. Was Jesus a combination of two natures, human and spiritual? NO The blending of two natures produces an imperfect HYBRID being. Jesus received the earnest of his inheritance to the divine nature at 30 years of age when he *consecrated* and was BAPTISED. (Matt. 3:16, 17) Before Jesus became a full partaker of the divine nature his CONSECRATION had to be carried out and his HUMAN nature sacrificed.

18. How many times did Jesus experience a change of nature? TWICE

19. Did our Lord Jesus give the equivalent for that which man lost? YES

20. Will an increase of knowledge or power effect a change of nature? NO Will increase of knowledge and skill doubtless be man's blessed privilege to all eternity? YES

21. Jesus as a man was an illustration of perfect HUMAN nature. The overcoming church will receive the DIVINE nature.

22. A "LITTLE FLOCK" is offered a change of nature during the Gospel age. Exceeding GREAT and PRECIOUS promises are given to the *little flock*. (Luke 12:32; 2 Peter 1:4) Perfect HUMAN life will be offered to the obedient of the world of mankind.

23. The BIBLE informs us that there are spirit beings. (1 Corinthians 15:40) Do we know to some extent what a natural, earthly, terrestrial body is? YES Do we know what a spirit body is like? (1 John 3:2) NO

24. Was it an exceptional case for our Lord to be changed from one nature to another? YES When God made angels, did he wish them to remain angels forever? YES Every creature in its perfection is GLORIOUS.

25. Are angels frequently present, yet invisible to human eyesight? (Psalm 34:7; Hebrews 1:14) YES At the time Elisha's servant was fearful, Elisha PRAYED to the LORD.

26. Can angels assume human bodies and appear as men? (Genesis 18:1, 2) YES Angels appeared to ABRAHAM, LOT, the father and mother of SAMSON and to others during the Patriarchal and Jewish ages. (Genesis 18:1, 2; Judges 6:11-22; 13:20)

27. Spirit beings in their normal condition are described as GLORIOUS and BRIGHT. Christ's glorious body after his resurrection (as Saul viewed it) was brighter than the SUN at noonday. (Acts 26:13)

28. Are angels invisible to men unless they appear in flesh as men or men's eyes are opened to see them? YES Did the men with Saul see our Lord? (Acts 9:7) NO For how long did the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstand the angel of the Lord who was sent to Daniel? (Daniel 10:13) 21 DAYS

29. Our Lord since his resurrection is a divine SPIRIT being.

30. Are spiritual and human natures separate and distinct? YES When complete, there will be 144,000 body members (with Christ the Head) who will also be divine spirit beings. (Rev 14:1) The great future work of the Christ is to RESTORE all things.

31. Is it important to learn the correct meaning of the words *mortality* and *immortality*? YES

32. The definition of *mortality* is a condition in which death is a POSSIBILITY.

33. The definition of *immortality* is a condition in which death is an IMPOSSIBILITY.

34. The *common* idea of *mortality* is wrong, but the idea of *immortality* is more nearly CORRECT.

35. Was Adam mortal *or* immortal before his transgression? MORTAL If Adam had been immortal, could the Creator have said that disobedience would bring death? NO

36. Was Adam's life secure so long as he remained obedient to his Creator? YES

37. Was Adam on trial for *immortality*? NO
 Will the great mass of mankind saved from the fall, as well as the angels from heaven, always be *mortal*? YES Could they suffer death if disobedient? (Ezek. 18:4) YES The security of their existence will be conditioned upon what? OBEDIENCE

38. Originally only JEHOVAH was immortal. (John 5:26) Jesus is now IMMORTAL since his resurrection. (Philippians 2:9) The CHURCH is also promised immortality.

39. Is Satan mortal *or* immortal? MORTAL
 The fact that Satan will be *destroyed* proves that ANGELS as a class are mortal.

40. Will immortal and mortal beings live forever in joy and happiness and love after the incorrigible sinners are blotted out? YES

41. The very foundation of the doctrine of eternal torment is based upon the *unscriptural theory* that man was created IMMORTAL. The full penalty of wilful sin against full light and knowledge is the SECOND DEATH. (Ezek. 18:4; Acts 3:23)

42. Does justice require that God should make no difference in the bestowment of his favors among his creatures? NO

43. Is it a manifest absurdity to believe that all God's creatures must eventually attain the divine nature? YES

44. Does all nature, both animate and inanimate, exhibit the glory and diversity of divine power and wisdom? YES

45. Should a *favor* be esteemed as a justly merited recompense? NO

46. Man has an existence due to God's FAVOR. Should all of God's intelligent creatures receive with gratitude whatever God bestows? YES

47. The aspiration of Satan's PRIDE brought his abasement and will end in his DESTRUCTION. (Isaiah 14:14) What is the reward of those who humble themselves? (Luke 14:11) EXALTION

48. Does God have the right to elect or choose that some of his creatures shall be angels, some men, some beasts, birds, etc? YES Will the *little flock* who will receive the divine nature merit it more than others? NO

49. Does the potter have power over the clay to make one vessel unto honor and another one unto less honor? (Romans 9:20, 21) YES

50. Who formed the earth and made it? GOD
 Does anyone have a right to dictate to God? NO
 Is it more becoming to come humbly to God's word and *ask* rather than *command* that he carry out our ideas? YES

51. With the exception of the Gospel age church, will man in the resurrection still be earthy, human, adapted to the earth? YES Peter, our Lord, and all the holy prophets declare that the human race will be RESTORED to human perfection. (Acts 3:19-21)

52. Weeping bereaved ones will have their tears all wiped away when they realize the RESURRECTION work complete. (Rev. 21:4) Please *read* and *remember* the paragraph which begins with: "It is this portion..." (Quoted on Page 4 of this lesson.)

53. Will paradise be restored? YES Will the thorns and briars cease to exist? YES The desert is now BLOSSOMING as the rose. Is it natural to have a restless desire for something new? NO
 Will restored men have a desire to become spirit beings? NO Those now invited to receive a change of nature need special help from God to keep their eyes fixed on the spiritual PROMISES.

54. The selection of the body of Christ was determined in the divine plan BEFORE the foundation of the WORLD. (Ephesians 1:4, 5) This called out class must be conformed to the image of God's dear SON. (Romans 8:28-31)

55. The GOSPEL age is the age during which the church is selected. Is the church predestinated individually *or* as a class? AS A CLASS

56. What does the word *glorified* in Romans 8:30, from the Greek *doxazo*, signify? HONORED
 The church, like its Head, experiences a beginning of the *honor* at the time of spirit BEGITTAL. (James 1:18) They are fully ushered into the honor at the time of spirit BIRTH. Since the body members, by inheritance are sinners, JUSTIFICATION from sin through the death of JESUS has been provided for this class.

57. How many are called to the high calling? MANY The call at the first was confined to ISRAEL. The wedding garments represent the imputed righteousness of CHRIST. One who will not wear the wedding garment is REJECTED. In order to appear with the Lamb in glory, it is necessary to be called, chosen and FAITHFUL. (Revelation 17:14)

58. In order to be a member of the body of Christ, it is necessary to fulfill the CONDITIONS of the call.

59. Does God have the absolute right to do what he will with his own? YES

60. The blending of two natures would cause IMPERFECTION.

61. In order to become a member of the body of Christ, it is necessary to follow in JESUS steps. Those who faithfully suffer with Christ will be partakers of the DIVINE nature. (Rom. 8:17; 2 Tim. 2:12)

62. The saints are said to be begotten of God through the WORD of TRUTH. Full consecration is a REASONABLE service. (Romans 12:1) One becomes a new creature from the moment of full CONSECRATION. (2 Cor. 5:17)

63. One is an embryo new creature from the time of consecration until the death of the HUMAN nature. More and more UNDERSTANDING of God's plan through the operation of the holy Spirit enables our mortal bodies to render God service. (Rom. 8:11)

64. The *more than* OVERCOMERS share in the first or chief resurrection. (Rev. 20:6)

65. One who is more than an overcomer is born of the spirit in the first RESURRECTION. Is it possible for one to fall away? (Heb. 6:6) YES

66. Does it take time to bend heavenward that which naturally bends earthward? (Rom. 12:2) YES

67. The words of the Apostle Paul (Romans 12:1,2) are not addressed to the unbelieving world, but to BRETHREN.

68. Is there a difference between a transformation of *character* from a transformation of *nature*? YES Transformation of nature results to those who present their justified HUMANITY a living sacrifice during the GOSPEL age. The human WILL is the first thing sacrificed. Only those who have presented themselves as SACRIFICES and thus come to experience the transformation can fully understand the change

of nature from human to DIVINE. Must the consecrated sacrifice the present good things and devote all their energies to the service of God? YES Is this world the resting place of the fully consecrated? NO

69. Is there a difference between the fully consecrated and those who are only believers? YES The new divine MIND is the earnest of the inheritance of the fully consecrated. (Eph 1:13, 14) The more than OVERCOMERS will be like Jesus and see him as he IS. (1 John 3:2; Rom. 8:37)

70. The change from a human to a spirit body is INSTANTANEOUS. (1 Cor. 15:52)

71. The human nature is a likeness of the SPIRITUAL (Genesis 5:1) Is it possible for these different natures to arrive at the same conclusions? YES Do the spiritual natures have powers beyond and above the human? YES

72. Is there an immeasurable distance between God and his creatures? YES

73. The change from the human to the spiritual nature is effected by carrying the same mental powers to the higher CONDITIONS.

74. The transformation of mind from earthly to heavenly is the beginning of the change of NATURE. (Eph. 1:13, 14)

75. When clothed with the heavenly body, will one be able to identify himself? YES

76. Could Jesus realize the glory which he had with the Father before becoming a man? (John 17:5) YES

77. In order to be transformed, is it necessary to submit ourselves to the will of God? YES The transforming influences lead to present SACRIFICE and SUFFERING. Will the end result be glorious? YES

78. The treasure of the fully consecrated is in HEAVEN. The heavenly call is confined to the GOSPEL age. Will both the human and the spiritual natures be glorious in their perfection? YES

It is this portion that God has elected to give to the human race. And what a glorious portion! Close your eyes for a moment to the scenes of misery and woe, degradation and sorrow that yet prevail on account of sin, and picture before your mental vision the glory of the perfect earth. Not a stain of sin mars the harmony and peace of a perfect society; not a bitter thought, not an unkind look or word; love, welling up from every heart, meets a kindred response in every other heart, and benevolence marks every act. There sickness shall be no more; not an ache nor a pain, nor any evidence of decay—not even the fear of such things. Think of all the pictures of comparative health and beauty of human form and feature that you have ever seen, and know that perfect humanity will be of still surpassing loveliness. The inward purity and mental and moral perfection will stamp and glorify every radiant countenance. Such will earth's society be; and weeping bereaved ones will have their tears all wiped away, when thus they realize the resurrection work complete.—Rev. 21:4