

The Three Eternal Destinies #195

Can You Hear What Nature Teaches?

What does nature teach? Nature teaches us certain things. 1 Cor 11:14 is where Paul said, “Doesn’t nature teach you this?” Are you a human being? If you are, you can still be taught by nature. Do you still retain some of the likeness of your Creator? Or have you gone outside the boundaries of being a human being? If you have, you can’t hear what nature teaches us. Some people can fall below the degree where they can represent their Creator. Therefore, nature doesn’t teach them anymore.

We are taught directly by our Father. People in the world are taught by nature. They still have an opportunity. Our Father didn’t abandon them totally. He said, “Nature will teach you. You have a conscience. The knowledge of good and evil is inherent, intrinsic within you.” It is part of the make up of man. He certainly didn’t abandon man in that sense, for the conscience is God’s vice-regent.

We will help men judge themselves. That is part of the good news we will proclaim. 1 Cor 11:14-15 – Long hair is a woman’s glory and long hair is a man’s shame. That is what nature teaches. If you can’t be taught by nature then you are pretty far gone in other things as well.

Nature itself gives God-given knowledge, as Gen 3:22 says that man retains his likeness of God the more good that he does. The more evil that he does, he loses the likeness of his Creator. Satan lost it all. He tries to bring everyone down to his level. Rev 12:9 says he is trying to lead the whole world astray. He has fallen all the way down. Man has not, unless he does evil over and over again and gains a calloused conscience, one that can no longer feel the guilt for the pain he causes others.

Conscience is the God-given knowledge of Gen 3:22. “You are like Me,” God is saying, “to the extent that you know good from evil. The more you do good the more

you will retain the knowledge of Me and My image.” Most had lost the image of God by the time the flood came.

Conscience moves mankind to establish the governments of the world and to establish moral values. The governments establish moral values. You will have to go to jail if you do this, or pay a fine, or someone will sue you. Conscience moves mankind to establish government. Gen 9:5-6 establishes government that executes murderers if there is sufficient evidence. Conscience moves mankind to establish standards based on moral convictions that are common to all.

“Oh, am I supposed to stop at the stop sign? I didn’t know that.”

But that is not true, for everyone knows good from evil. The laws men make go along with the moral convictions that are common to mankind. It is the universal moral law. Rom 3:23 — “All have fallen short of the glory of God.” But that doesn’t mean they have fallen *all the way*, like Satan. Men have fallen short, but not necessarily completely short, of the full likeness of God.

Shemuel – Otherwise what would Satan be leading them astray *from*?

That’s right, Rev 12:9 and Rev 20:3.

Some fall short more than others and some retain the likeness and image of God more than others. They have a measure of glory, like Bahirah’s mother, in doing what nature teaches. Such men and women can still be taught by nature. Animals function by instinct only, but not human beings. We can make the choice of whether we want nature to teach us or not. We have instinct, but we don’t live by that alone. We make the choice whether we want nature to teach us or not, as Rom 2:12-16 says.

You are very familiar with this in the Three Eternal Destinies of Man teachings. This is what the judgment is based on for the world, to determine their eternal destiny. That is the judgment. The eternal destinies of all mankind will be determined by obedience or disobedience to this instinctive knowledge of good and evil, especially in regards to one’s behavior and works – what each one does for a living.

The very nature of things teaches us — the particular pattern of things found common to nature, which is ordained by God the Creator, and which testifies to the truth, or the common sense that every person has. This is not a perfect knowledge, because you are going to be misled to a certain degree as schools or parents mislead you. But you are not going to be misled to the degree of going over the waterfall unless you so make that choice. No one can mislead you to that degree unless you want them to – and you make that choice. The leading of your conscience is not perfect, but it is as perfect as you want it to be.

Nature testifies to the truth we instinctively know and to the commonsense we share. Nature is the essence. It is the character, inherent, and intrinsic in a person. It is that which is inborn within each one, as Rom 1:20 says that no one will have an excuse when they stand before Him in judgment for doing those really evil things. Certainly, all have sinned and done things that were not right. But no one will have an excuse for doing those evil things.

Shemuel – Sodomites say today, “I was born this way,” reducing themselves to creatures of instinct. But no one is born that way. They make themselves that way. Only animals function by instinct alone.

Some sodomites can hear that. If they haven't gone too far they can believe in it.

Nature is the condition, the state, and the order of things in the natural world.

What does Rom 1:26 say?

“For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.”

You can see how what is natural gives way to what is unnatural. That takes them over the waterfall. It reduces people to their lowest level. You won't be able to trust them in anything. They have thrown away their character, their essence, their very being.

“Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.” (Rom 1:27)

They have received in themselves the due penalty of their perversion; their very mannerisms betray their bad conscience.

“And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting.” (Rom 1:28)

They didn’t want the knowledge that was put into them. Do you see the word *retain* there? They did not have retention of what they knew. They, the sodomites, weren’t born that way. No one will have an excuse for not doing what he or she knew was right and good. Rom 1:19-20, Gen 3:22, and Gen 9:5-6 — The last is how the world establishes government and executes murderers. It is as 1 Pet 2:14 says, that government is to praise those who do good and punish those who do evil.

All mankind will be judged by Gen 3:22, by the knowledge of good and evil. Jms 4:17 says what?

“Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.”

Gen 3:22 says that man knows what the right thing to do is (Jms 4:17). It is inherent, innate, and intrinsic in his nature. How does Gen 3:22 read?

Then the Sovereign God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever.”

They know good and evil, being like God. They had to be removed from the Garden of Eden so that they wouldn’t live in that state forever. We have to be redeemed of our own choice and will. Our Father didn’t want them to live in that fallen state forever and ever.

To the degree that a man will err is the degree to which he must pay the consequences (Rom 6:23). And as Jms 4:17 says, the one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin. We have to confess our sins and make amends for the things we do wrong. And Jn 8:51 says that whoever obeys our Master will not taste death. He was not talking about eternal death, but the consequences of the sins we have not confessed.

Rom 1:26 – They left the natural for the unnatural. They left what nature teaches for something that nature teaches against. They did something nature teaches not to do. They sinned against nature. They sinned against nature. Let me just give you understanding of what intrinsic means...

What is Inherent in Mankind is Indispensable

Inherent means belonging to the essential nature of a thing. A synonym is *essence*. Something *inherent* is indispensable within you. It can't be done away with because you have to answer for it. What is inherent are the indispensable properties of human nature, such as the knowledge of good and evil. It is a fundamental property in man. Don't let anyone deceive you. Men know right from wrong. That is how governments make laws.

Abraham Lincoln said men would not know good and evil if there were not the Bible, yet he was a murderer himself, killing seven hundred thousand people. That thinking is what has caused all the wars, the inquisitions, the killing of the heretics, and everything else. The Bible wasn't made for natural men, but for the redeemed. It is the worst book you can read if you are not redeemed. Natural men don't understand the Bible. It was written to Israel, to the Body of Messiah in Galatia or Corinth, and not to the world.

When men and women leave the natural, they pervert themselves. Does God love perverts? No, as Pr 3:32 says. They destroy people's lives. They do all kinds of horrible things. They are perverted.

Human nature is the intrinsic essence of who you are. It is the indispensable part of you. It is the intrinsic part of you, your character, what makes the order of man distinct from all creation. It is like an orange. If you were to squeeze an orange, you would get the essence of it. If you were to squeeze Yotham, you would get the essence of him, sweet and wonderful. It would come right out.

To retain the human likeness of God, the essence that belongs to him, and to have the same knowledge of good and evil that God has (not to the same degree, of course, but the same knowledge), men must work hard. You can see that in Job 14, about the hard labor natural man faces to do the good and turn from the evil. They trust in God's vice-regent, their conscience, within them. Rom 2:7 is a pretty hard job. They know the good and do it because of Rom 2:7. They are worthy of a second life. It is so essential, so basic, the nature we have as humans made in the image and likeness of God.

Isaiah 62:12 — *Derushah*

The knowledge of good and evil is essential, like we are essential to our Father. That is why He calls us *Derushah*. There is no way He can do without us. We are essential (Isa 62:12). We are His highest creation, redeemed man. He has to have us to dwell in forever. The redeemed man is essential. He has to be seen and heard in our human body. That is why our Master Yahshua is the firstborn of all creation. He is like how everyone will be in redemption. "If you have seen Me," He said, "you have seen the Father."

Man is to retain his nature, his intrinsic qualities, the glory of his Creator, by doing good. The essence is the concentrated extract of substance, which retains the fundamental properties of the thing, like orange juice retains the essence of the orange. Perfume is the essence or extract of some other substance, like the rose (and there are tinctures of herbs that extract their essence). There is a certain amount of esteem and respect in a man for other human beings. If not, society descends to utter chaos. In the world it is getting the way it was before the flood. That respect is fading away.

Can you still see that people have respect for other human beings? To some degree it is still there. That respect is respect for the Creator. That is what it means in Gen 9:5. If you go the limit of murdering another human being, it is the ultimate disrespect of God, the highest rebellion, to have such disrespect for His creature. If we

disrespect a human being that God still respects, than we are disrespecting Him. This is done by stealing from him, saying bad things about him, or speaking disrespectfully to him, etc. This is disrespect for His creature.

If we have disrespect for animals it is serious (Pr 12:10). Even our neighbor knows that it is bad to let his animals stand around all day. You have compassion for a bird in a cage – that is cruel. We have to be careful that we don't pervert an animal's nature, for example, by overfeeding a cat. It can be good to have around, doing what it was created to do, but it should still go out and find its own things to eat.

Constituent Parts of the Whole

Human nature is made of constituent parts.¹ Those parts are inherent in man, meaning they exist as intrinsic characteristics. They exist as essential characteristics of human beings. They are part of our essence. Something inherent is one of our constituent parts. When we get in a tough place in the Body, when things are tight and there is stress, then our essence comes out. It either comes out in stress and reaction against people (“Shut up, you are bothering me. Get out of my hair!”), or it comes out in love, joy, peace, and especially patience (Gal 5:22-23).

You can't fake patience. That is a constituent part of us that shows or reveals everything else. When you put a person in a tight place it shows his character, what he is made out of, his essence. We have to be tested. A man is a responsible constituent of the Creator's creation. The holy are the highest representatives of the Creator. We can't expect so much of our neighbors. They are not redeemed.

One tribe is a constituent of the twelve-tribed nation. It represents the whole, as a human being represents God. Do people blaspheme God by how they are? This is what the Jews have done in the natural sense according to Eze 36:21 and Rom 2:17-24. We

¹ In this sense, *constituent* is defined by the dictionary as an artifact that is one of the individual parts of which a composite entity is made up.

had better not say that we the holy people of God unless we are a constituent part of the whole, as one clan is part of and represents the whole.

It should be, “Yes, you are amazing! You work together,” but if we are here complaining and everything is filthy, then we are a component part representing the whole thing in a bad way. We must not misrepresent God since we are His highest creation. A constituent has elected representatives, as President Clinton represented all of America. Just as representatives in Congress represent Americans, we represent the nation of Israel.

Ha-êmeq – When you first started talking about that, I thought that must be what you are trying to get to when you discipline a child, to that part where, from within his own nature, he recognizes that what he did was wrong. When he can do that he is recognizing right from wrong and knows the right thing to do in the future. We want our children to get used to bearing witness with that thing inside of them.

Sodomites have to say deep inside of them, “I know I am right. I know I am right!” since they know they are wrong.

Other things, like abortion, for example... No matter how many science classes teach people the fetus is not alive, still way down in the inner part of them, by which they will be judged, they deceive themselves. You learn that as a child. For instance, in training, when your teacher goes out of the room and says, “Don’t talk” and then your teacher comes back and you smile, as though you weren’t talking, that part of you deep inside says, “You are so wrong. You did talk.”

Then, as you learn to quiet down that inside part of you, you deceive yourself. You no longer retain that knowledge of good and evil and you can no longer tell right from wrong. You say, “I can make that part of me be quiet. Good!”

I am thankful that a nation of people is being raised up that knows right from wrong and listens to that voice inside. I am thankful that there is a nation where the children can say, “I know where I went wrong. I know why I did it.” He is making us like Himself again.

Shemuel – Mankind can justify so much evil. It is shocking to see how far people have fallen, but it didn’t just happen overnight. I am thankful that we can be the redeemed. I am thankful that we can have these good things built into our essence. Some people think that mankind shouldn’t even

exist anymore. People can see the purpose of mankind when they see our lives. Creating man was not something fallen our Father did so He could put people into hell. He actually wants to defeat the evil one.

That's wonderful!

Ha-êmeq – So that you can say to these people with dreadlocks, “Nature teaches you not to do that,” and the person can understand it. But he won't understand if he has not retained the knowledge of good and evil.

Chanowk – He is either in the stage where he has to tell that voice to be quiet, or it is already quiet. In that case, he is not even hearing it anymore. I remember having a terrible conscience growing up. All the way home I would justify myself in case my father would ask me how my day went. All my youth I put that voice down and did things. It was agony, the most terrible thing.

Amidah asked me one time, “Is it normal, is it right that a black man would be with a white woman?”

There was natural knowledge there and I was in a position to support it or totally tear it down. The same thing could happen with the child's question, “Is it right for two men to be together?”

The responsibility of parents in the world is to confirm and strengthen what is in the conscience of their children. It is totally torn down every day and parents will have to stand in judgment for it.

When Adam and Eve sinned they were sentenced to the first death. Then at the resurrection they will be judged worthy of the second death or second life. Our Father's holy nation is in another dimension. The Holy will be ruling over all, men like Job of old who lived by their conscience.