

Example One: concerning rejection of the Word of God:

## (a) New Testament characterization of the unregenerate state:

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him."  
(I Corinthians 2:14a)

## (b) Old Testament characterization of the state of the believer:

"But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."  
(Psalm 1:2)

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."  
(Psalm 119:11)

"O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day."  
(Psalm 119:97)

"Thy testimonies have I taken as a heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart."  
(Psalm 119:111)

"I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil."  
(Psalm 119:162)

"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."  
(Psalm 119:165)

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts."  
(Jeremiah 15:16)

As can readily be seen, these two characterizations are antithetical. The unregenerate man does not receive the things mediated to him by the Holy Spirit through the writers of Scripture; worse still, they are foolishness to him. The Old Testament believer eats them (receives them), takes them, hides them in his heart, meditates upon them, rejoices and delights in them, and loves them. Surely these are not the actions and attitudes of a natural, unregenerate man!