

Why do Followers of Christ have to have Two Natures?

As a provisional solution to the divine-human disparity dilemma, God prefers to implant Christ's nature in us even now. With his residing in us, we are empowered to live a life pleasing to him – relatively speaking - as long as we are on earth. (See 1 John 3:22.)

We will be relieved of our sinful nature only when we get to heaven. "...we know that...we shall be like him..." (1 John 3:2). And we will have different bodies. "...the Lord Jesus Christ...will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body" (Philippians 3:20,21).

Why doesn't God evict our old nature when his new nature moves in? If he did, I imagine there would be immediate and serious ideological and practical repercussions, counterproductive to God's purposes. My guess is it would have drastic, unbearable social consequences. Our old nature keeps us on the same level with other people and helps us identify with them more acceptably and effectively.

The world was able to tolerate only three and a half years of Jesus' perfection. No, not even that long. For, if it had not been for periodic supernatural action and intervention, he would have been killed almost as soon as he first opened his mouth in public. (See Luke 4:28-30; John 7:19,25,30.)

I believe that, for now, God wants all the inhabitants of the universe to see that less than perfect people can voluntarily (by choice) be committed to loving and serving him. Also, unsaved people need to see tangible proof of changed lives – the *before* and the *after*. Furthermore, God's grace, power and wisdom are *magnified* in redeemed, reclaimed *sinners*. "The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more; so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 5:20,21).

God always has good reasons for what he does or doesn't do. Of that we can be sure. Let's just believe God knows what he's doing, and he is tenderly reaching out to you and to me through his special extraterrestrial emissary – The Lord Jesus Christ. ◇◇