

A Thing Impossible

Men and women who are in an unregenerate condition are in a very awful state; and the reason it is such a dreadful condition is because it is a state in which they “cannot please God” (Romans 8:8). Not only can they not *please* Him but *they don't even care* that they cannot please Him. Without the grace of God in their heart (and all are in that condition by nature), the things of the Spirit of God are foolishness to them. Not only do they not *receive* them, but they also *cannot know them*. The reason they cannot know the *things* of the Spirit of God is because they do not *have* the Spirit of God and therefore have no spiritual discernment (1st Cor. 2:14). This is an awful condition indeed, a condition in which they are dead in trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1, 5) and consequently do not possess faith (2nd Thess. 3:2). And again, being without faith they “cannot please God” (Heb. 11:6). They are like those spoken of in (Job 21:14) who said unto God, “Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of Thy ways.” Look again at their true condition by nature: **1.** They **cannot** *please* God, **2.** They have no *desire* to please God, **3.** The things of God are *foolishness* to them, **4.** They do not *receive* them, **5.** They cannot *know* them, **6.** They have no spiritual understanding or comprehension, **7.** They are **dead** in sins, and **8.** They do not possess the grace of faith. How, then, could such a person ever be persuaded to “accept the Lord” and love Him with all their heart? Obviously such a thing is *impossible*. Only God's born again people ever have any spiritual desires toward Him or have a desire to follow Him and serve Him.

---Elder Ralph Harris.