

The Inscrutable Question: *Psuchikos*, the “Soulsh Man,” Compared with *Pneuma*, the “Spiritual Man”: Jude 19; 1 Cor 2:14; James 3:15

21. The Greek word is the nominative, masculine, plural of the adjective:

**ψυχικός / psuchikos /** - soulsh

**Arndt & Gingrich: *A Greek English Lexicon of the New Testament*, 894:**

Always denoting the life of the natural world and whatever belongs to it, in contrast to the supernatural world, which is characterized by **πνεῦμα / pneuma /** [spirit].

*Adjective*, an unspiritual man, one who lives on the purely material plane without being touched by **πνεῦμα / pneuma /** the Spirit of God.

**1 Corinthians 2:14** - [CTL] The soulsh [**ψυχικός / psuchikos /**] man does not accept things from the Holy Spirit for to him they are foolishness, furthermore, he is not able to even acquire academic understanding because they are spiritually discerned.

The wisdom that does not come from above is called “natural” in:

**James 3:15** - This wisdom is not that which comes down from above [**ἄνωθεν / anothēn /**] but is earthly, natural [**ψυχικός / psuchikos /**], demonic.

Arndt and Gingrich go to 1 Corinthians 15 to illustrate Paul’s comparison between the physical body and the resurrection body where the apostle contrasts the “natural” with the “spiritual”:

**1 Corinthians 15:44** - It is sown a natural body [**ψυχικός / psuchikos /**], it is raised a spiritual body [**πνευματικός / pneumatikos /**].

**Kittel and Friedrich, *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, Vol. 9, 663:**

In 1 Corinthians 2:14 **ψυχικός / psuchikos /** means the natural man who lives without the gift of the Spirit and who thus belongs to the world and not to God.

In James 3:15 **ψυχικός / psuchikos /** describes that which is earthly and which is thus closed to the world of God. The earth is governed by wicked demons and hence gives rise to strife, unrest, and conflict.

In Jude 19 the **ψυχικός / psuchikos /** lives apart from God’s Spirit with the ungodly man who lives according to his own desires. Certainly, what is earthly is not evil as such. But ... without the aid of God’s Spirit man will be the victim of his own lusts and of ungodliness.

22. These three passages make it clear that the person characterized as **ψυχικός / psuchikos /** is an unbeliever characterized as a person who is without the Holy Spirit and therefore without a human spirit.
23. Those without these two essentials of the spiritual life of the Church Age belong to the world and not to God. Such individuals cannot know God for the ability to do so requires spiritual discernment.
24. Therefore, those who are **ψυχικός / psuchikos /** are governed by the ruler of this world by means of demon influence, demon possession, and the doctrine of demons.
25. Jude 19 instructs us that the **ψυχικός / psuchikos /** falls victim to his sinful nature, its lust patters, and develops wheel-tracks of wickedness.
26. Such a person has been led astray, the prevailing objective of Satan’s ongoing campaign to delude and deceive members of the human race.

27. We saw this satanic objective in full swing during the Tribulation in:

**2 Thessalonians 2:9** - The appearance of the lawless one [ **the Satan-possessed Beast-Dictator** ] shall be according to the modus operandi of Satan with all power and by means of miracles, even wonder miracles of the lie,

**v 10** - and by means of all deception [ **ἀπάτη / apate /: all the methods used by Satan to sell his lie** ] of wrongdoing [ **ἀδικία / adikia /** ] to those who are being led astray [ **ἀπόλλυμι / apollumi /: gang aft agley** ]: deprived ruined, destroyed because they have not received the love of the truth that they might be saved.

28. What happens when a person is “led astray”? The Scots have a term for it. *Gang* is a Scot verb that means, “to go.” *Aft* is an adverb translated “often.” And *agley* is an adverb meaning “awry, astray, or wrongdoing.” Robert Burns used this term in his famous poem, “To a Mouse.”

The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men

Gang aft agley,

An' lea'e us naught but grief an' pain,

For promised joy!

(Robert Burns, “To a Mouse,” 39-42)

29. The unbeliever in the Tribulation is led astray because of the fact he is dichotomous and thus susceptible to the satanic deception. This is pointed out by Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 and by John in Revelation 12:9.

30. In 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 we see that Satan uses all manner of devices to delude the unbeliever such as bogus miracles which are accomplished by slight of hand and wonder miracles of the lie which refer to slight of tongue.

31. The passage in Revelation confirms that in the Tribulation he has global success with Operation: Gang aft Agley.

**Revelation 12:9** - And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives [ **πλανάω / planao /: to lead astray; cause to wander from the right way; mislead** ] the whole world ...

32. These passages reveal that the unbeliever who does not have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and no human spirit cannot learn the Word of God.

33. The person who cannot learn the Word of God is incapable of developing a personal love for God.

34. Therefore, the **ψυχικός / psuchikos** / man is a helpless target for the duplicity, delusion, and deceit that encompasses the cosmic lie.