

CHARLOTTE COLLEGIAN

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MAN... A UNIQUE ANIMAL

Some philosophers (?) maintain that the only factor which distinguishes man from other animals is that he is . . . "the only featherless biped with long fingernails". By observation, both in the mirror and in others, we find much in favor with this school of thought which narrowly distinguishes us—even we of the SiSi clan—from the other animals.

However, we do resent this "fact" as being the **only** distinguishing factor, and will stand up to be counted as contending that man IS unique, but to let it be known on what basis!

It's true that man is featherless, that he is biped—having two legs, and that he has long fingernails; but, in addition to these, we contend that he is different because of his triune being—possession of Body, Mind, and Soul.

On the first count, we must agree that other animals have bodies, and are subject to and conscious of the five senses—touch, taste, smell, hearing and seeing. Unquestionably true!

On the second count, we must still be agreeable and admit that other animals have minds, and are able to think. GRANTED! And, in spite of one psychologist's statement that man is the only "reasoning" animal, we must throw-in-the-towel and concede that many "fellow-members" of the animal kingdom do have "reasoning" minds, which they sometimes use to a degree shameful to their "featherless biped" brothers.

So, if we were to end our line of thought at this point, there would be little to substantiate our claims that "Man is Unique", and then the artist's conception of that "animal" might have been satisfactory to all concerned.

However, we maintain that man's one distinguishing characteristic is that he is a Spirit, possessing spiritual capacities and desires—indicating the existence of what Webster termed "the soul".

It was many years ago that the Philosopher Plato astounded the thinkers of his day when he claimed that there was more to life than body and mind. He claimed that the body, with its five senses, and the mind, with its reasoning capacities, were not "ends" in themselves, not something to be developed and enjoyed in this world alone, but that . . . "All of the visible is but a shadow of the invisible—that which we can see, feel, hear, smell and taste are but signs of greater things—things of the spirit".

Plato, in this conviction, was not stating an original thought, but a truth much older than himself. For, the Philosopher Moses had stated in Genesis 2:27 that man was created "in the image of GOD", and possesses "Body, Mind, and Soul" (Gen. 2:7).

By scientific approach we can OBSERVE man—watch his movements, his habits, his desires, etc.—and note a peculiar attribute . . . the desire to worship—whether materialistic, pleasure, or spiritual things. Therefore, we might state as an HYPOTHESIS that man is a Spirit—possessing desires and

capacities unknown to other creatures.

But finally, it is only by personal, individual EXPERIMENTATION that we can find "whether these things be so"! This is the point and purpose of this Editorial.

Here at C.C., we are intent (?) upon the pursuit of developing our minds through educational means; we are interested, while somewhat limited, in developing our bodies—thus our athletic activities and social fraternities—but, we believe that there is a need, and a place, for spiritual emphasis, or a means of "soul development" as well.

The Bible makes unqualified statements of promises and blessings that are in store for those who will "seek first the kingdom of GOD" (St. Luke 12:31). Knowing of the desire of many, and the **need** of all of us to be reminded of "these things", we wonder if now isn't THE TIME to begin such a program?

Jesus, who was Truth, promised that if you know the truth . . . "the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32), therefore, we are proposing the establishment of a work which has as its goal: seeking first the "kingdom of GOD", endeavoring to make TRUTH known, and the furthering of spiritual life at C.C.!

If you are, or desire to be, a Christian and are willing to participate sacrificially toward establishing such a program of Bible Study and Christian emphasis, please contact either the office or the writer.

Yes! It's true that man may be . . . "a featherless biped with long fingernails", but, being created in the image of God gives him high goals and a life-time task of seeking and living TRUTH! Let's determine to develop the "whole" man—Body, Mind, and Soul.

"Man's conception of GOD will determine the whole trend of his life" . . . P. B. Hill.

JIM GUNNELS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT PROBLEMS

When our faithful former president, Arthur Farley, completed his studies at Charlotte College last quarter, he left behind a vacancy in the top Student Council office. Unwittingly, Farley also left behind a confused and befuddled Student Council, student government, and student body.

According to the Constitution, if a vacancy occurs in the office of president the vice-president automatically assumes the office and duties of the president. Actually this should have been a simple matter, but complications arose. Charles Vess, who was holding down the office of vice-president, became ineligible for any Student Council post when he was unable to get suitable courses for the Spring Quarter. The Constitution plainly states that each Student Council officer shall maintain two courses throughout his term of office. The results: Vess could not continue as vice-president; nor could he fill in the vacancy left by Farley. The offices of president and vice-president, both of them, will remain empty until newly-elected officers are installed, or until some change in the Constitution has been approved by seventy-five per cent of the student body. The Constitution contains no provision for replacement of disqualified student leaders. There is reason to believe that some changes for the better are forthcoming. On April 8 an Amendment Committee reviewed, studied, and discussed possible changes in the constitution. This committee will soon present to the student body its recommendations for several needed revisions. Their proposals will probably include changes in superlative selections, office-holding qualifications, and honor system enforcement. With some luck and a good

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