

8: Anthropology and Sin Round Table Discussion

1. What do you think Chesterton is concerned about in the quote below-- especially as it applied to our knowledge of ourselves (anthropology).

Modern man has gone mad... The mad man is not the man who has lost his reason. The madman is the man who has lost everything except his reason. He understands everything, and everything does not seem worth understanding.

C.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy*

2. How is the above situation corrected according to John Calvin?
What are the implications in our self-knowledge?

It is certain that man never achieves a clear knowledge of himself unless he has first looked upon God's face and then descends from contemplating him to scrutinize himself."

John Calvin

Note also:

No age, knows so much, and so many things about humanness, as does ours; and yet no age knows less than ours what humanness is. Having lost the awareness of God, modern people have set their sights on human existence as the one worthy object of concern. It is, however, precisely because of this loss of God-awareness that present-day people are less sure of who they are and why. For it is only in reference to God that nature of humanness can be truly understood.

H.D. McDonald, *The Christian View of Man*

3. **Can it be said that the doctrine of sin “dignifies” humanity? If so, in what sense?**

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