

Study 4
**THE DILEMMA
OF A FALLEN HUMANITY**

our spiritual environment:

(as those who are idolatrously God-refusing & rebellious)

- the dominion of darkness

(the oppressive realm of the world, the flesh & the devil)

hard-hearted refusal of our dear & awesome Maker—in foolish pursuit of false promise of life—inevitably locking us into:

AN ENDLESS, RESTLESS STRUGGLE

*** the action of God's wrath (the holy anger of His love)**

giving us over to personally-disintegrating & despair-producing:

GUILT

to do with the CONSCIENCE—having to bear with a dark-spirited sense of **condemnation & shame**

wrath-averting strategy: desperately seeking relief by blaming someone or something else, condemning others, performing better, changing the rules, denying the facts or self-punishment

INSECURITY

to do with PERSONHOOD—having to bear with a dark-spirited sense of **lostness & inferiority**

wrath-averting strategy: desperately seeking to gain personal & vocational significance (& 'dealing with the competition'?)

to do with CIRCUMSTANCES—having to bear with

a dark-spirited sense of **uneasiness & vulnerability**

wrath-averting strategy: desperately seeking to gain physical, financial, material, relational, vocational & political security

FRUSTRATION

to do with PERSONAL FULLNESS—having to bear with a dark-spirited sense of **deadness & futility**

wrath-averting strategy: desperately seeking to secure each day a full & life-giving engagement in significant relationships & action, or just a perpetual feast of meaningless escape—but with an ever-lurking guilt-charged anger, vented or suppressed

FEAR OF DEATH

to do with ETERNITY—having to bear with

a dark-spirited sense of **dread & doom**

wrath-averting strategy: desperately seeking to dismiss the fact of final judgment, through belief-systems, guilt-relief & 'life-now!'