

## **Pauline Anthropology: The two Men in the one Man**

In Paul's description of human beings statistically the terms flesh and body prevail. The phrase *ho esō anthrōpos* appears twice in his writings. I shall argue that this phrase also describes his eschatology.

In 2 Cor. 4: 16 *ho esō hēmōn [anthrōpos]*, forming a pair with *ho eksō hēmōn anthrōpos*, express an anthropological *duality*. In 2 Cor. 4:16 - 5:10 the "inner man" is related to the things which "cannot be seen" and are eternal, to a "building from God", to "a house not made with hands" etc. The "outer man" is "wasting away", and is used as a metaphor for the physical body.

The "inner man" is being renewed day by day, but is not described as the soul or mind. It survives physical death and seems to preserve the continuity and identity of the person. In Romans 7:14-25 the "I" can probably called the "self" and delights in the Law of God *kata ton esō anthrōpon* and the latter is here the equivalent of *nous*.

According to Paul the renewal of man is central for his anthropology which constitutes a part of his Christological eschatology. This transformative principle brings an aspect of *eschaton* into the present human existence.