

Spirit Body and Soul

A human being consists of three parts; the Spirit, Soul, & body - 1 Thess 5:23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Soul (The vehicle)

Purpose - Gas pedal
Path -Steering
Will – driver

Body (world triggered)

Desire
Sensation
Status

Spirit (God triggered)*

For God
God's Way
God's Will

SOUL

Your soul is what makes you...YOU - 1 Cor 15:45-49 - 45 So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. 47 The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. 48 As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly. 49 Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

NASU

God made man a soul -Gen 2:7 - And Jehovah God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man BECAME A LIVING SOUL. ASV

When it talks about the soul (nephesh)(pneuma) it's talking about the entire person – Lev 6:1-2 - 1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 2 If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the Lord, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour; KJV

When it's talking about the soul (psuche) in the NT it's talking about the human being - Rom 2:9 - There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, NASU

Only God can destroy the Soul - Matt 10:28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

The soul is affected by the flesh or the Spirit, we must CHOOSE what drives it - Matt 26:36-38 - 36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." 37 He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

SPIRIT

The Spirit is the God provided life in the man -Gen 2:7 - And Jehovah God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. ASV

The Spirit of man is from God and knows that man -1 Cor 2:11-12 - 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

This is why God searches our Spirit - Prov 20:27 -The lamp of the Lord searches the spirit of a man; it searches out his inmost being.

The spirit is what gives us access to true understanding - Job 32:7-8 - 7 I thought, 'Age should speak; advanced years should teach wisdom.' 8 But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.

That spirit is what reveals God to all men - Rom 1:20 - For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — HAVE BEEN CLEARLY SEEN, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

That spirit is what gives morals even without knowledge of God or the law - Rom 2:14-16 - 14 (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15 since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) 16 This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

When we die that spirit is what goes to God

Ecc 12:6-7 - 6 Remember him — before the silver cord is severed, or the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, or the wheel broken at the well, 7 and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

Acts 7:59-60 - 59 While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

***Because humans allowed their spirit to be redirected, we must test the spirits** - 1 John 4:1 - Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits TO SEE WHETHER THEY ARE FROM GOD, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

BODY

* **"The body" represents; our bodies, flesh, and human nature**

The body is dying - 2 Cor 4:16 -Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

The body is what man has been allowing to control the Soul - Eph 2:3-5 - 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our SINFUL NATURE and following ITS DESIRES and THOUGHTS. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved.

The body is dependent on the senses and the things of man - Col 2:20-23 - 20 Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: 21 "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? 22 **THESE ARE ALL DESTINED TO PERISH WITH USE, BECAUSE THEY ARE BASED ON HUMAN COMMANDS AND TEACHINGS**. 23 Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

Following the sinful nature is a choice with dire consequences - 2 Peter 2:9-10 - 9 if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment. 10 This is especially true of those who follow the corrupt desire of the sinful nature and despise authority.

The world's purpose is to cater to the body; therefore, we must adjust our relationship to the world - 1 John 2:15-17 - 15 **DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD OR ANYTHING IN THE WORLD**. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For everything in the world — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does — comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

A true Christian is someone who lives by the spirit NOT by the flesh! - Rom 8:3-4 - 3 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so **he condemned sin in sinful man**, 4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, **WHO DO NOT LIVE ACCORDING TO THE SINFUL NATURE BUT ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT**.

HOW THESE THREE ELEMENTS SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT WORK

God's Holy Spirit communicates with our spirit in order for us to make the RIGHT CHOICE this time - Rom 8:16-17 - 16 **THE SPIRIT HIMSELF TESTIFIES WITH OUR SPIRIT THAT WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN**. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

The Holy Spirit is to restore that path to God - John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Christ made clear that His will must be for God not his own - John 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. KJV

It's important not to give into the flesh because it disrupts our soul - 1 Peter 2:11 Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

It all started here

God created the essence of spirit or flesh - Gen 2:9 And the Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground — **TREES THAT WERE PLEASING TO THE EYE** and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

God then created the choice between spirit & Flesh - Gen 2:15-17 -15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Man made the wrong choice –

Knew Spiritual - Gen 3:3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'

Acted fleshly - Gen 3:6 When the woman SAW that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and **ATE IT**. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Because man chose Flesh, it's caused a continual battle with himself - Rom 7:14-20 - 14 We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. 15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. 16 And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. 17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. 18 I **KNOW THAT NOTHING GOOD LIVES IN ME**, that is, in **MY SINFUL NATURE**. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do — this I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

The choice started man on the Path to death, but God provides a way back to the right direction - Rom 7:5-6 - 5 For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

Not only has he provided a way back, He has given us his Spirit to supply us with all we need - 2 Peter 1:3-4 - 3 His divine power HAS given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

In order to keep the Spirit in control, there are two things that must be done - Mark 14:38 **WATCH** and **PRAY** so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

The Spirit gives us the understanding we need of God - 1 Cor 2:13-14 - 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he CANNOT UNDERSTAND them, because they are spiritually discerned.

We have the responsibility on us to rid the control of the body - Col 3:5-10 - 5 **PUT TO DEATH**, therefore, whatever **BELONGS TO YOUR EARTHLY NATURE**: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

We daily have to stop allowing the body from being in control - 1 Cor 9:26-27 - 26 Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27 **NO, I BEAT MY BODY AND MAKE IT MY SLAVE** so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Beating the body means, like Christ, we must suffer in the flesh - 1 Peter 4:1-2 - Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. 2 **AS A RESULT**, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

The way to avoid giving into the Flesh is to choose to live for the spirit - Gal 5:16-23 - 16 So I say, **LIVE BY THE SPIRIT**, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. **THEY ARE IN CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER**, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. 19 **The acts of the sinful nature are obvious**: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who LIVE like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But **THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS** love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Christ true strength can only be revealed through us when the body is weak - 2 Cor 12:9-10 - 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The Bible is an important ingredient of what is needed to keep us spiritual and avoiding the Flesh - Heb 4:12-13 - 12 For **THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE**. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing SOUL and SPIRIT, JOINTS AND MARROW; it judges the THOUGHTS AND ATTITUDES of the heart. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Another important ingredient is one another to keep us Spiritually focused - Heb 3:12-13 - 12 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

* If all is done right the body is controlled by the Soul while being led by the spirit.

LET'S SEE WHERE WE ARE GOING WRONG)

We must understand a true Christian is someone who NO LONGER IS influenced by the flesh and is completely, Godly Spirit led - Gal 5:24-25 - 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, LET US KEEP IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT.

- **Eliminate the control of the sinful nature with its values and wants**

This process is necessary because it is the body that got us in the trouble in the first place - Rom 8:9-10-9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, **IF** the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. 10 But if Christ is in you, your BODY IS DEAD because of sin, yet your SPIRIT IS ALIVE because of righteousness.

We have missed this very important fact because we have allowed our worship of God and relationship with God to be led by the flesh instead of the Spirit - 2 Tim 4:2-3 -: 2 **PREACH THE WORD**; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction. 3 For the time will come when **men will not put up with sound doctrine**. Instead, **TO SUIT THEIR OWN DESIRES**, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their ITCHING EARS WANT TO HEAR.

***A major problem done by man today is trying to get God to make the flesh to be in line with the Spirit or visa-versa Instead of us being led by the Spirit while keeping the flesh in check.**

Scenario, a man marries a widow with two kids. For two years the widow has been the head of that family. Once her and the man were married, being Christians, she knew she had to recognize him as the head. The response she made to God was, “If you help me to see him as a leader or if you can make him the leader that he is supposed to be then I will be able to submit to him as the leader.”

Question: Is there a problem with this request to God?

Answer: In a nutshell YES. The problem is, the request is asking God to make the flesh satisfied before this soul will Spiritually obey God.

True Christian’s spirit submits to God only

We are to Have a spirit in need of God - Matt 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Our Spirit needs to be broken to submit to God - Ps 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a BROKEN SPIRIT; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Salvation is given to those who give their spirit to God - Ps 34:18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Crushed or broken - shabar (shaw-bar'); break (down, off, in pieces, up), broken ([-hearted]), bring to the birth,

We must understand, our Spirit is what helps us to endure, unless we allow our Spirit to be crushed –

Prov 18:14 -A man's spirit sustains him in sickness, but a crushed spirit who can bear?

Prov 17:22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Crushed - nake' (naw-kay'); or naka' (naw-kaw'); smitten, i.e. (figuratively) afflicted: (broken, stricken, wounded.)

The Bible lets us know “heartache” is what crushes the Spirit - Prov 15:13 - A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed. ESV

To avoid “heartache” we must not let our hearts be troubled, this is done by TRUSTING in God - John 14:1- "**DO NOT LET** your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

***Trusting in God is finding what He says and doing it.**

The Spirit is what keeps us when the flesh is attacked - 2 Cor 4:7-10 - 7 But we have **THIS TREASURE** in jars of clay **to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us**. 8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

If we depend on the flesh instead of the Spirit WE ARE DOOMED - Rom 8:5-8 - 5 **Those who LIVE ACCORDING TO** the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but **those who live IN ACCORDANCE WITH** the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The **mind of sinful man is death**, but **the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace**; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, **NOR CAN IT DO SO**. 8 **THOSE CONTROLLED BY THE SINFUL NATURE CANNOT PLEASE GOD**.

Our responsibility is to do what the Spirit says and not be led by the flesh - Rom 8:12-13 - 12 Therefore, brothers, **WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION** — but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. 13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, YOU WILL DIE; but if BY THE SPIRIT you put to death the misdeeds of the body, YOU WILL LIVE,

