

Questions Posed for Study

Question: What is the difference between our spirit, and our soul?

In His Image

(I Thessalonians 5:16 – 28; Key verse is verse 23)

Intro: In this passage we find that most of the verbs are, present tense, active voice and in the imperative mood. Which for the most part means these are actions meant to be taken seriously and worked out in the daily operation of the Believer's life. Indeed, as verse 23 states that we "made in the image of God," then our text is a text revealing things that exist in God's character and if we are made in His image, then they should be taking place in our lives as well. It is called "spiritual growth." We are a tripartite being,

1. We have a spirit – it is either dead to God or alive unto God. (Pneuma)
2. We have a soul – it is where reasoning, thought & emotions take place. (Psuche)
3. We have a fleshly body – This is the part that senses the world around us. (Soma)
4. **I Corinthians 2:14 – 3:3.**

To understand how each of these parts function in relation to each other, it is easier to grasp if we look at each as containers.

We move to the second layer (container) of our being, the 'Psuche' or the soul of man. This area is where thought, reason, emotions, desire, information is received and processed, and where the issues of morality are processed and is as well eternal. The body will die and be buried and is physically mortal while the soul is capable of moral corruption. When we die our soul lives on into eternity in one of two places, hell and or heaven depending on the decision we make about Jesus Christ. Reject Him and one's soul and spirit will go out into a Christ-less eternity of torment and darkness, while if one chooses to accept Christ as Savior our soul and spirit will spend eternity with Christ.

II. The Psuche – the _____ of man.

A. The word 'soul' appears 432 times between the New & Old Testament.

1. Every individual conceived is an _____ being as to their soul and spirit.
2. When we are conceived, we are conceived _____ from God.
3. We have _____ our alienation as the Scripture states in **Romans 5:12.**
 - a. "Thanatos" the implied idea of a _____ misery in hell **Romans 3:23.**
 - b. Also a metaphor for death as in _____ death.

- B. The “soul” of man is where desire, emotion, reasoning, thought, our will is shaped.
1. Using our bodies _____ to experience the world in which we live, our mind receives various degrees of information that makes up our character and personality.
 2. ‘Gigo’ is a computer term meaning “garbage in, garbage out” which is as true concerning how our thinking and reasoning will _____ as well as our character and personality.
 3. **Proverbs 23:7** is addressing our _____ and reveals why it is so important for us to be avid students of the Word of God. We need divine information to offset wrong thinking and so we don’t lean to our own understanding, **Proverbs 3:5** – “**Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.**”
 4. We must remember that the unsaved _____ receive the things of the Lord, the information that God would have us come to.
 - a. Coming to a saving faith in Christ – **Romans 6:23**. (No one ever gets saved by accident!)
 - b. To live a godly life that _____ God – **I Peter 1:15 & 16**.
 - c. **Hebrews 11:6** – “**But without faith *it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*** “
 - (1). This faith in context is about our _____ respecting our relationship to God and divine things.
 - (2). The chapter 11 continues to reveal how those listed actually believe the promises of God and trusted Him. **(II Tim. 3:15 & 16; Jude 1:18 – 20)**
- C. The mind of Christ. –
1. What a blessing and privilege to _____ the Lord our God’s thoughts on anything and everything that exist whether it is moral, immoral, divine, carnal, spiritual or worldly.
 2. **I Corinthians 2:15 & 16** – is where mind and soul come _____ to “judge” or discernment through investigation, God’s thoughts and His will on any and all things.
- D. The works of the flesh operating independent of God are partially listed in **Galatians 5**.
1. First the flesh wars _____ the Spirit and caught in the middle is our mind. (**Gal. 5:16 & 17**.) (The handicap of the unsaved & the carnal Christian.)
 2. Then a list of the works of the flesh – **Galatians 5:19 – 21**.
 3. In the Redeemed of the Lord we are to use biblical principles and the convicting presence of the Holy Spirit of God and the Word of God to _____ in our flesh – (**Romans 6:12 – 23**)
 4. In order for us to rise to these challenges, we have to be _____ in our spirit. (**Ephesians 2:1 – 5**.) Next week – our spirit.