

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: The first two study blanks are on the rail outside the sanctuary if you need them to complete this topic of today. 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 are "made in the image of God," then our text is a text revealing things that exist in God's _____ 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 _____ – it is either dead to God or alive unto God. (Pneuma)
2. We have a _____ – it is where reasoning, thought & emotions take place. (Psyche)
3. We have a _____ 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 _____.

We move to the third layer (container) of our being, the 'Pneuma' or the spirit of man. This area is where God-consciousness is received and processed, meant to be an influence in our mind 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 spirit eternal as is the soul of man. When we die our soul and spirit 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. **Luke 16:19 – 31** bears witness to this.

III. The Pneuma – the spirit of man – I Thessalonians 5:23.

A. The important truth here is that all human's have a body, a soul and a spirit.

1. The body has a direct _____ with the world and provides us with information.
2. Every human is born with a spirit _____ from God or unable to receive from God

the information God has for living our lives unto Him. **(I Corinthians 2:14 – 16.)**

a. Note in **verse 14** the problem the unsaved have in _____ God.
b. This is why it is so important to realize one is only ever _____ by faith – **(Ephesians. 2:8 & 9; Galatians 2:16, John 3:15 – 21 to give a few verses.)**

c. When we come to a saving faith in Christ, our soul and spirit are _____ – **(John 6:63 – quickened meaning to give life – I Corinthians 2:15 & 16.)**

d. If we look at **I Corinthians 3:1 – 3** we see that when we will not take the time to read, study & meditate in the Word of God, man's spirit remains _____ by the flesh and ignores the Holy Spirit of God endeavoring to conform us to the image of Christ – **Romans 8:26 – 29.**

3. Twice in the previous passage we are _____ the ministry of the Holy Spirit of God, in the life of the Redeemed, is able to interact with our spirit because our spirit has been quickened the second we accepted Christ as our Savior – also - **Colossians 2:13.**

B. With our quickened spirit the Holy Spirit _____ to our spirit which is now able to relate to godliness and as we mature, to even desire to live to please God.

1. **Ephesians 2:1.** The point is, now there is a _____ to God and spiritual truth that did not exist, nor could it have existed prior to one's salvation. Things now begin to make sense to us – **II Corinthians 5:17 – 23 & 5:9 & 10.**

2. When Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, the spirit of man did _____ and in time man would die a physical death, the body went into the ground, the soul and spirit into eternity to face God – **Romans 14:12; I Peter 4:5 & Daniel 12:1 – 3.**

3. If **John 16:7 – 15** could never take place in our lives if our spirit is not _____ thereby enabling the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth.

C. What God is after in our lives, is spirit controlled _____, a mind-controlled _____, that begins with the influence and tutoring by the Holy Spirit of God, using the infallibly preserved Word of God., to our spirit, then from our spirit to the mind, with the expectation that our mind will mature and reign over our bodies – **Romans 6:12.**

D. Jesus touched on this when He was speaking to the Samaritan woman at the well in **John 4:2 – 26, note verses 22 – 24.**

1. Here is a solid reason why works can never, ever save anyone.

2. Works are things we do physically and usually according to our own desires.

3. Perhaps some ecclesiastical orders errantly may have physical works for penance.

4. The _____ for worshipping God is the spirit of man that has been quickened by the power of God when as sinners we come to a saving faith in Christ.