

Understanding How we are made

Taking a look at the Human spirit

Good Evening,

Tonight we are going to be going over some notes that the Lord has given me concerning our make up as human spirits.

Let's go through a little background information...

Tonight what I hope that you will see is through scripture that because of a process that God started with Adam, if we keep our faith in Christ, we will be resurrected in the last day.

I Corin 15: 35 - 53

The word resurrection, usually points out our existence beyond the grave. Of the apostle's doctrine not a trace can be found in all the teaching of philosophers. The doctrine of Christ's death and resurrection, is the foundation of Christianity. Remove this, and all our hopes for eternity sink at once. And it is by holding this truth firm, that Christians stand in the day of trial, and are kept faithful to God. We believe in vain, unless we keep in the faith of the gospel. This truth is confirmed by Old Testament prophecies; and many saw Christ after he was risen.¹

The Corinthian's were arguing with Paul about the Resurrection of Christ. They didn't understand or believe how Jesus or even we could be resurrected.

Paul uses a very good description here when he talks to the people about a seed going into the ground and dying.

Now, I want you to think about salvation, and what happens to you as you become born again.

As a believer you need to understand this process and what happens to you.

I want to break all of that Paul down into one simple statement. We are spirit, with a soul, that lives in a body.

Our body is going decay and return to dust. So as Paul says, in verse 42 - [The body] that is sown is perishable and decays, but [the body] that is resurrected is imperishable (immune to decay, immortal).

Verse 44 ⁴⁴It is sown a natural (physical) body; it is raised a supernatural (a spiritual) body. [As surely as] there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

Verse 48 – ⁴⁸Now those who are made of the dust are like him who was first made of the dust (earthly-minded); and as is [the Man] from heaven, so also [are those] who are of heaven (heavenly-minded).

¹ <http://www.biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries/Matthew-Henry/1Cor/Apostle-Proves-Resurrection>

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Unsaved people act unsaved because they have not been born of the spirit. It's in their nature to act earthly-minded.

⁵⁰But I tell you this, brethren, flesh and blood cannot [become partakers of eternal salvation and] inherit or share in the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable (that which is decaying) inherit or share in the imperishable (the immortal).

⁵²In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the [sound of the] last trumpet call. For a trumpet will sound, and the dead [in Christ] will be raised imperishable (free and immune from decay), and we shall be changed (transformed).

⁵³For this perishable [part of us] must put on the imperishable [nature], and this mortal [part of us, this nature that is capable of dying] must put on immortality (freedom from death).

[Pass out HO 1](#)

I Corin 15: 44 (Figure A)

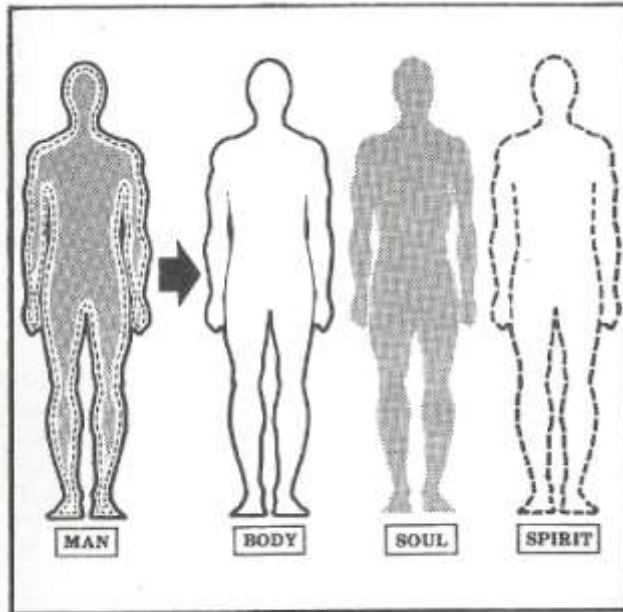


Figure A

Our spirits have a form or shape, a body corresponding to our physical body.

Rebecca Browns says, "That few people other than Satanists or those involved in such things as astral projection realize this."

We read these scriptures earlier (**Rev 4: 2 and II Cor 12: 2**) but these scriptures show an experience perceived in the person's spirit, and that the spirit body was separated from the physical body.

Notice when John stated that he was in the 'spirit' that it is spelled with a small 's' signifying his own human spirit.

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Rebecca Brown states that every time the Holy Spirit is referred to in scripture it is spelled with a capital 'S' as in **Rev 1: 10**

Rev 1: 10 and **Hebrews 4: 12**

Notice when John stated that he was in the 'spirit'

Hebrew 4: 12 has the small 's'

Did you ever wonder why it is necessary to divide between our soul and spirit?

According to **Hebrews 4: 12** if you take the sword of the Spirit a division can be made between the soul and the spirit.

Before the fall of Adam, Adam could relate to, and see the spirit world as easily as he could see the physical world. How?

By the use of his spiritual body: this is demonstrated by the ease with which Adam could walk and talk with God in the Garden of Eden.

Adam had a conscious awareness of his spiritual body as well as his physical body.

Adams soul (conscious intellect and will) controlled both his spiritual and physical bodies.

But at the fall, spiritual death took place – that is Adam and us, were no longer consciously aware of our spiritual body, and thus could not commune with the Lord as he had once done.

Figure B and C

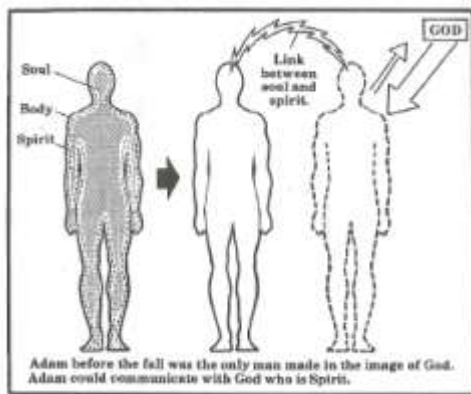


Figure B

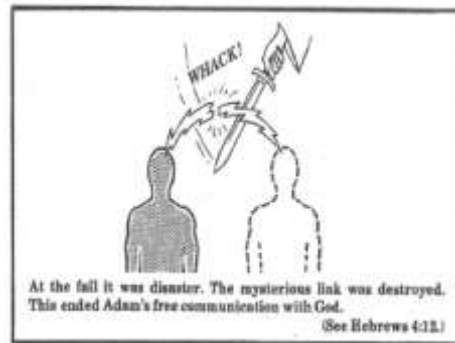


Figure C

Now, when the Holy Spirit comes in at the rebirth when you become born again, your spiritual body is reborn and the connection is remade between you and God.

It is through our spiritual body that we commune with and worship the Lord as Adam did before the fall.

John 4: 23 – 24

It is through our human spirit (small 's') that we commune with God with the help of the Holy Spirit 'S'

Does your Bible have the difference in spelling?

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Now Rebecca Brown concludes with Therefore: Therefore only a spirit can commune (that is communicate with the spirit world, this case worshipping God the Father who is a Spirit with a capital 'S').

We are a tri part being, we have a spirit, a soul and a body.

Our spirit is eternal and will live forever. Our soul and our body are not eternal. Our soul is a part of the animalistic nature that God created within us to help us survive in this earth realm. Our body houses our soul and spirit and will return to the dust from which it was created. And you will see that there are many scripture references to our soul being destroyed and our body returning to dust.

OUR SPIRIT

John 5: 24 states that whoever hears Christ's word and believes on the God who sent Christ, has everlasting¹⁶⁶ life²²²² and shall not come into condemnation²⁹²⁰ but is passed from death²²⁸⁸ unto life.

When we break down the Greek on the words everlasting, life, condemnation, and death we can get the complete picture of what this scripture is saying to us.

Let's take a look at these words in the Greek.

everlasting¹⁶⁶ - is Greek word ***Aionios*** – eternal, belonging to the aion, time in it's duration is constant, abiding, eternal. Used when referring to eternal life. The life which is God's and hence not affected by the limitations of time. *Aionios* is specially predicated of the saving blessings of divine revelation, denoting not belonging to what is transitory.

There are 4 cases with this word which give us the pictures of the meaning of this word.

Case 1 – Having neither beginning nor end, (**Rom 16: 26, Heb 9: 14**)

Case 2 – Without End (**Matt 25: 41, 46; II Thes 1: 9**) In **Philemon 1: 15**, meaning forever, not only during the term of one's natural life, but through endless ages of eternal life and blessedness.

Case 3 – In **Jude 1: 7**, eternal fire refers to the miraculous fire from heaven which destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. This is evidenced not only because of the effect thereof shall be equal duration with the world, but also because the burning of those cities is a dreadful emblem of that everlasting fire, (**Matt 25: 41**) which awaits the ungodly and unclean.

Case 4 – *Chronoi*, times *aionioi*, eternal means the ages of the world, the times since the beginning of the worlds existence. (**Rom 16: 25; II Tim 1: 9; Titus 1: 2, Eph 1: 4; I Pet 1: 20**)

When you look at the word everlasting in this verse **John 5: 24**; you can get a picture of what the Word is saying to us. Those who believe on Christ are going to live forever, time without end. We also see from this same word that those who do not believe in Christ are also going to live forever but they will live forever in the eternal fire, the fire that is without end which is a clear descriptive picture of hell.

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life²²²² is Greek word **zoe** – life, referring to the principle of life in the spirit and soul. Distinguished from bios (979), physical life, livelihood, of which zoe is the nobler word, expressing all of the highest and best which Christ is (**John 14: 6, I John 1: 2**) and which He gives to the saints, The highest blessedness of the creature.

John 14: 6 – 7; Jesus saith unto him, “I am the *way*³⁵⁹⁸, the *truth*²²⁵, and the *life*²²²². No man cometh unto the Fathers, but by me. 7If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.

When we look at the word principle it is not clear what zoe is specifically referring to. So let’s take a jump into a dictionary to break down the word principle.

prin·ci·ple [prínsep’l]
(plural prin·ci·ples)
n

1. basic assumption: an important underlying law or assumption required in a system of thought
2. ethical standard: a standard of moral or ethical decision-making
I buy recyclable products as a matter of principle.
3. way of working: the basic way in which something works
4. source: the primary source of something
5. chemistry characteristic ingredient: an ingredient of a substance that gives the substance a particular quality

Encarta ® World English Dictionary © & (P) 1998-2004 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Let’s plug in the definitions replacing the word principle with its respective meaning.

*life*²²²² is Greek word **zoe** – life, referring to the principle **{basic assumption, ethical standard, way of thinking, source, characteristic ingredient}** of life in the spirit and soul.

Jesus is saying to us here that in Him, a believer will have the basic assumption, ethical standard, way of thinking, source, and characteristic ingredient of life within them to live as He lived on this earth; spotless, sin free, not controlled by His soul, but keeping His soul under subjection through the spirit to His Spirit.

Look back at **John 14: 6** – Jesus is saying that I Am the way³⁵⁹⁸, the truth²²⁵, and the life²²²². **basic assumption, ethical standard, way of thinking, source, characteristic ingredient**. No man cometh unto the Fathers, but by me.

Now let’s take a deeper look at our spirit.

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Genesis 2: 7, "And the Lord God formed man of the *dust*⁶⁸⁰³ of the ground, and *breathed*⁵³⁰¹ into his *nostrils*⁶³⁹ the *breath*⁵³⁹⁷ of *life*²⁴¹⁶ and man became a *living*²⁴¹⁶ *soul*⁵³¹⁵.

*Breath*⁵³⁹⁷ – is Hebrew word – *N^eshamah*: It means puff of air, a breath, breathing, panting, a breathing being, an animal, a living creature (**Deut 20: 16; Josh 10: 40**) a living soul; spirit (**Gen 2: 7**) Spirit of God imparting life and wisdom, divine inspiration(**Job 32: 8**). *N^eshamah* seems to be synonymous with nephesh and is often found in combination with *ruach*⁽⁷³⁰⁷⁾.

When God breathed into Adam a part of God, his breath became our life, our breath is the same breath of God.

Our breath is a part of God and cannot die. When our physical bodies dies our spirit man still remains alive and will return to where it came from, the source... God.

Rev. 21: 8 – But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerer's, and idolater's, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second *death*²²⁸⁸.

*Death*²²⁸⁸ – is Greek word Thanatos, death, spiritual death (**John 5: 24; I John 3: 14**). As spiritual life consists in constant communication with God who is life, so spiritual death is the separation from His blessed influence. Eternal death (**Romans 6: 21, 23; James 5: 20; I John 5: 16, 17**) which is the second death – **Rev 2: 11; 20: 6, 14** – implies everlasting punishment.

Many in the Church do not comprehend this concept of the second death.

God does not intend for believers to go through the second death. His intention is to send those who work iniquity to the second death. (This is evidenced by **Rev 21: 8**).

The second death is where a person's spirit is separated from Gods presence because God cannot be around sin.

As we discussed earlier your spirit man is a part of God. It cannot die. It cannot be ended. So since God cannot kill himself so to speak, He separates Himself or banishes that part of His spirit away from Himself.

This is interesting on a number of levels because of what some have experienced as testimonials of hell.

Mary K. Baxter being a good example says that Jesus walks the corridors of hell, weeping over those who are lost.

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You are there in a place of punishment but you cannot die, you are forever tormented in the lake of fire. You are forever in a place of having knowledge of God, crying out to God but your spirit man can never be reconnected with God.

Now consider this because out of an act of your will you rejected God you can never be redeemed. You can never be forgiven for your sins.

{Reference -Hebrews 6: 4 – 6 – You can't trample on the blood of Jesus. There remains no more sacrifice, no more blood for your sins.}

The same is true for satan and the angels that fell with him. They can never again have an opportunity for repentance.

We know from scripture that hell was made for the devil and his angels. Did you ever think about why? Why didn't God just destroy them? Make them disappear?

It's because they are spirit beings also, they were created with a part of God. God can't be destroyed nor can a piece of God be destroyed.

Therefore they must be banished or exiled away from God.

The most disturbing aspect of this can be found in **Romans 6: 16**.

Romans 6: 16 – Know you not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey; his servants you are to whom you obey, whether of sin unto **death²²⁸⁸**, or of Obedience unto righteousness.

We also know from Romans 6: 23 that sin leads to **death²²⁸⁸**

But have you ever stopped and thought about how sin just keeps you wanting to sin more and more. Sin is never satisfied. Sin always wants you to do it one more time.

Sins natural progression is your death, your separation from God.

What happened when Jesus became sin on the cross? God had to turn his back on Jesus.

When Jesus was on the cross, one of his last statements was that He thirsted. We thought that meant for the natural water but really it was the spiritual.

The spirit of God had literally withdrawn itself from Him and Jesus felt it.

Death²²⁸⁸ had taken place right before our very eyes. Jesus spirit man was still alive, his soul was still alive and his body was dying.

Jesus' soul was already dead – think about it... Jesus was dead to sin.

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Jesus did not let his soul rule Him. He ruled it...

Your spirit man is the only part of you that will remain after your body expires.

I Corin 15: 44 – 50

Paul explains this very well. We live in a corruptible home right now. Our soul is subject to the passions and the things of this world.

Unless we are spirit led our soul tells us what to do. Those who are not spirit led are controlled by their souls.

We can see in this passage that the soul, the flesh will not be allowed to inherit the Kingdom of God.

His very nature would demand judgment and retribution. The blood of Jesus would cry out for revenge.

As a penalty for what Adam and Eve did in the garden we inherited spiritual death within our bodies. The connection that we enjoyed in the garden with God was broken.

This is the reason why we must be born again. This is the reason why people can sit in Church and act like the devil himself because their spirit man is dead and not alive to the Spirit of God.

If we are not born again and once born again, live a Godly life we will earn ourselves the right to the second death or eternal death, which implies punishment and complete separation from God.

SOUL

Souf^{F315} – Hebrew word – *Nephesh* – It is the soul by which the body lives, that is the body continues to live by drawing breath. Another important principle is life, the vital principle which results in death when it leaves the body. *Nephesh* can die or stop, it can be killed and poured out with blood. *Nephesh* is often used with phrases which relate either to the loss of life or its preservation and sustenance.

Lev 17: 11 for the life(*Nephesh*) of the flesh is in the blood.

The most interesting meaning of the word *nephesh* in light of everything is the sense of a dead person. It really means one who has died with emphasis on the personal identity of an individual while alive. Since God cannot die and He does not have the same kinds of human cravings or appetites which we do, it is not surprising that *nephesh* seldom occurs with reference to God.

II Peter 2: 11 "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the **soul;**⁵⁵⁹⁰ .

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Let's look at the word soul in the Greek.

Sou^{F590} – in the Greek is *Psuche*; that immaterial part of man held in common with animals (Matt 10: 28, Rom 2: 9)The *psuche* no less than the *sarx*(4561) flesh, belongs to the lower region of man's being.

Your soul therefore can be said to be your animalistic nature.

The things that you have to do to survive: eat, sleep, reproduce, protect yourself from danger, and the list goes on.

Psuche exactly corresponds to the Hebrew *Nepesh*, as will be seen from the following passages : Mark 12:29, 30, compared with Deut. 6:4, 5; Acts 2:27 with Ps. 16:10; Rom. 11:3 with 1Kings 19:10; 1Cor. 15:45 with Gen. 2:7. In all these places, *psuche* in the New Testament represents *nepesh* in the Old.²

THE FIRST FOUR OCCURRENCES OF THE WORD "NEPESH" RELATE EXCLUSIVELY TO ANIMALS. That is a good fact to start with and to remember. A good foundation. Let us get them firmly in our mind:

Gen. 1:20: "And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life" (The word "life" here is *nepesh*--soul).

Next verse: "And God created great whales, and every living creature (*nepesh*--soul) that moveth, which the water brought forth abundantly."

Verse 24: "The living creature (*nepesh*) after his kind, cattle and creeping things."

Verse 30: "Every beast...every fowl...everything that creepeth, wherein there is life (*nepesh*)."

Then, having prepared our understanding by applying *nepesh* four times to every species of living creature on the earth, the Scriptures' next use of the word is in the record of the creation of man (Gen. 2:7): "The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground." (and that in itself is a phrase to be well noted when we consider the nature and composition of man)

"The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul (*nepesh*)."

(EXACTLY THE SAME WORD as four times already applied to animals, Man, formed of the dust of the ground, became a living soul (an animal, breathing creature) when God breathed into him the breath of life.)³

Now a few passages to show that soul (Hebrew: *nepesh*) is not some immaterial essence, but is applied to the ordinary, natural functions of fleshly creatures:

² <http://ecclesia.org/truth/psuche.html>

³ http://www.west.net/~antipas/books/soul/soul_2.html

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- Prov. 6:30: "Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul (nephesh) when he is hungry."
- Isa. 29:8: "A hungry man dreameth, and behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul (nephesh) is empty--a thirsty man dreameth, and behold, he drinketh, but he awaketh, and his soul (nephesh) hath appetite."
- Lev. 17:10-11: "I will even set my face against that soul (nephesh) that eateth blood...For the life (nephesh--soul) of the flesh is in the blood..."
- Deut. 12:20-23: "Thy soul (nephesh) longeth to eat flesh thou mayest eat flesh, whatsoever thy soul (nephesh) lusteth after...the blood is the life (nephesh--soul); and thou mayest not eat the life (nephesh--soul) . . ." ⁴
- Whenever speakers in the New Testament quote from passages in the Old containing the Hebrew word nephesh, they use the Greek word psuche. One outstanding example will illustrate this. In 1st Cor. 15, beginning at verse 42, Paul makes a contrast between corruption and incorruption, weakness and power, mortality and immortality. Then (verse 44) he says:
 - "There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body."
 - The word "natural" here is **psuchikos**--soulish, from psuche--soul. He continues, verse 45:
 - "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul (psuche)..."
 - He is quoting Gen. 2:7 which we have considered. In verse 46, he calls this living soul, "that which is natural." In verse 47, he calls it "of the earth, earthy." In verse 50, he calls it "flesh and blood" and "corruption." Paul's conception of soul fits perfectly with what we have already discovered.
 - Similarly souls are applied to animals, and souls die, in the New Testament just as in the Old. In Rev. 8:9, we read:
 - "And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life (psuche --soul), died..."
 - Rev. 16:3: "...every living soul (psuche) died in the sea."
 - And "soul" is used for natural life and function, as in the Old. In Matt. 6:25, Jesus says:
 - "...Take NO THOUGHT for your life (psuche--soul), what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink..."
 - The soul here is clearly that which is supported by eating and drinking. Acts 15:25-26 we read: "...Our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men that have hazarded their lives (psuche) for the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ."⁵

Sometimes psuche stands for the immaterial part of man made up of the soul, psuche in the restrictive sense of the animus, the life element, and the pneuma(4151), spirit. But animals are not said to possess a spirit; only man has a spirit, giving him the ability to communicate with God.

So that was a long list of different sources all saying the same thing about your soul.

James 2: 26 For as the Body without the ***Spirit*⁴¹⁵¹** is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

***Spirit*⁴¹⁵¹** Is Greek word – Pneuma related to pneo, to breathe, to blow, the spirit which like the wind, is invisible, immaterial and powerful.⁹

condemnation²⁹²⁰ is Greek word

⁴ http://www.west.net/~antipas/books/soul/soul_2.html

⁵ http://www.west.net/~antipas/books/soul/soul_3.html