

Man—Body, Soul & Spirit

Youth Bible Study

- **Why Did God Create Man?**
 - Rev. 4:11 "thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created"
 - "pleasure" (Greek word means "will")
 - 1 Timothy 2:4 "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."
 - We bring pleasure to God (we please Him) when we do His will
 - God created us because He wants a relationship – He loves us
 - True love desires reciprocation (a return of that love)
 - true love comes from "choice"
 - God has legions of angels that do His will
 - angels are not creatures of choice
 - John 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments."
 - man proves his love through choice
 - temptation is not designed to induce failure but to reaffirm our love and strengthen it
- **What Is Man?**
 - Genesis 1:26 "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness"
 - "us" (plural – Godhead, Trinity)
 - **Trinity (3 parts to the Godhead):**
 - Matthew 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."
 - we are baptized in all three names because all three have a role in our salvation
 - God created the plan of salvation
 - Jesus implemented the plan
 - The Holy Ghost is the administrator
 - **Example of the Trinity – Luke 11:24-26**
 - evil spirit (was cast out) returns & finds his house (heart of man) "swept and garnished"
 - "swept": clean (washed by the blood; Jesus' part)
 - "garnished": set in order (declared in right standing; God's part – justification)
 - but empty (Matthew 12:44) – without the Holy Spirit
 - the evil spirit is able to move back in
 - we must have all 3 parts of the Trinity (all 3 Divine Persons) in our salvation
 - **God:** Justification – a legal declaration in Heaven by God
 - **Jesus:** Cleansing – application by Jesus' blood
 - **Holy Spirit:** Indwelling – the Holy Spirit takes up residence in our hearts
 - **Man Is a Three-Fold Being**
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:23 "I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless"
 - "blameless" (Greek word means "entire" or "completely")
 - Genesis 1:26 "And God said, Let us [Trinity] make man in our image, after our likeness"
 - "man" – **body** (translated from the Hebrew word "adam"; the physical portion of man)
 - "image" – **spirit**
 - Colossians 3:10 "put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him"
 - Ephesians 4:24 "put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness"

and true holiness"

- man was created with a righteous and holy spirit (God's image)
- sin changes us – we no longer have a righteous and holy spirit
- must be "renewed in the spirit of your mind" (Eph 4:23)
 - must let the Holy Ghost change our way of thinking (way of righteousness)
- "likeness" – **soul**
 - what part of man is like God?
 - Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God"
 - Isaiah 57:15 "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity"
 - Matthew 10:28 "not able to kill the soul" (the soul is eternal)
- We have a body — we possess a spirit — we are a soul
- **Creation**
 - Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."
 - "image" (spiritual portion) was created first
 - "male and female" (physical) was created second
 - Genesis 2:7 "And 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."
 - "formed man" – physical form
 - "living soul" – other translations "living being" or "man started breathing"
 - "breath of life" – cannot be the soul; otherwise, animals could be said to have a soul
 - Ecclesiastes 3:19 talking about men and beasts "they have all one breath"
 - all are "living creatures" (act of breathing)
 - this was NOT when the soul began
- **The Soul**
 - Job 10:10 "Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast fenced me with bones and sinews."
 - there was a "me" before there was a body ("skin and flesh," "bones and sinews")
 - me = spiritual part
 - skin, flesh, bones & sinews = physical part
 - Psalm 139:13 AMP "For You did form my inward parts; You did knit me together in my mother's womb."
 - before there was anything else in the womb, there was a "me" (the soul)
 - Psalm 139:16 before there were any "members" (before the body was formed), verse 17 says, "How precious are thy thoughts unto me" (concerning me)
 - Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee"
 - me, my, thee = personal pronouns (describing a person)
 - We can exist apart from our bodies
 - Philippians 1:22-23 "I live in the flesh" but I have "a desire to depart"
- **The Soul Contains:**
 - **The heart**
 - Proverbs 23:7 "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he"
 - **The conscience** (the conscience is in the heart)
 - Hebrews 10:22 "having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience"
 - **Senses**
 - Rich man and Lazarus
 - rich man "cried" (emotion)

- "send Lazarus" (will and recognition)
- "have mercy" (desire)
- "cool my tongue" (natural tongue in the grave – still have natural perceptions)
- "remember" (full mental faculties)
- **Intellect, will, and emotions are all in the soul** (Matthew 26:31, 38-39)
 - **Intellect** – "All ye shall be offended because of me this night" (He knew what was coming)
 - **Emotions** – "my soul is exceeding sorrowful"
 - **Will** – "let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will" – He didn't want to
- **Feelings** — Psalm 42:5 "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me?"
- **Desires** — 1 Kings 11:37 "according to all that thy soul desireth" (desire resides in the soul)
- **Perception** — Psalm 139:14 "that my soul knoweth right well"
- **Emotion** — Luke 2:35 "a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also"
- **Ability to learn** — Matt. 11:29 "learn of me ... and ye shall find rest unto your souls"
- **Ability to think** — Proverbs 23:7 "as he thinketh in his heart, so is he"
 - other versions "thinketh within his soul," or "thinketh within himself"
- Soul is the true center of man's life, the personality, the conscious self
 - Soul is our self-consciousness; awareness of ourselves
- Soul is not just the mind—when the mind is affected (disability, dementia), the soul is there
- **The Body**
 - to operate in this world, we need a body
 - it is our "world consciousness" — awareness of the world
 - after death, we will have NO awareness of this world
 - as soon as the rich man died, he was in the eternal realm
 - the real him (soul) left his body
 - Lazarus & the rich man are not described as having any awareness of earthly happenings
 - purpose – we were given bodies to love God (reciprocate His love & do His will)
 - as soon as man (body) was created, God presented him with a choice (tree; Gen. 2:17)
 - temptation comes through the body (the flesh)
 - remember, temptation is a way for us to prove our love to God, not a trap
 - **Choice** — Galatians 5:17 "For the flesh lusteth against [is opposed to] the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh"
 - if we had no flesh (body), we would not be creatures of choice
 - both the spirit and the body are working on our soul to present us with a choice
 - thus, it is so important we have the right spirit working
- **The Spirit**
 - Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."
 - "dividing ... soul and spirit" – soul & spirit are not the same thing
 - another version says "making a distinction between"
 - **parallelism:**
 - example of synonymous parallelism (Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 3:11)
 - "soul" and "joints" AND "spirit" and "marrow"

- "joints" – a form of a bone; where 2 bones are joined so they can move; joints are connectors; allow movement
 - "soul" – holds the body and the spirit together
 - compared to joints that hold bones together
 - when the soul moves out, the body and the spirit are no longer together
 - Ecclesiastes 12:7 "Then shall the dust [body] return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."
- "marrow" – soft tissue in the center of the bone; red and white corpuscles; essential for life
 - "marrow" is the life of the bone (essential element to life)
- "spirit" – our God-consciousness (awareness of the spiritual realm)
 - provides spiritual life
 - Romans 8:10 "the Spirit is life"
 - spiritual life comes through the Spirit
 - our spirit is designed to be inhabited by the Holy Spirit
 - our spirit acts as a conduit
 - the Spirit of God within the spirit of man brings spiritual life to man
 - enables man to be directed by God's Spirit
 - just as marrow is the "life of the bone," for the soul to operate as it ought requires the Spirit of God working through the spirit of man
 - Romans 8:16 "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God"
 - when man's spirit refuses God's Spirit ...
 - lack of spiritual awareness
 - 1 Corinthians 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God ... neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."
 - Romans 8:6 "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."
 - 1 Corinthians 2:12 "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."
 - we are designed to receive something
 - "not the spirit of the world" – the spirit of the enemy
 - "but the spirit which is of God" – the Holy Spirit
 - "that we might know" — God communicates with us through our spirit when it is yielded to the Holy Spirit
 - Ecclesiastes 12:7 at death our "spirit shall return unto God who gave it"
- spirit is our God-consciousness (we will not need that in eternity)
 - it is how God (a Spirit being) relates to us in this world
 - God's Spirit deals with us through our spirit
- spirit is where the image of God is
 - Colossians 3:10 says we must have a "renewed image" – back to the original (created in righteousness and holiness; Ephesians 4:24)
 - "renewed in the spirit of your mind" – so God can commune with us
- Ephesians 5:18 "be filled with the Spirit" – under the influence
 - this changes our thinking, actions, and words
 - this produces a God-consciousness
 - we will feel what He feels
 - we will think as He thinks

- we will rejoice in what He rejoices in

Christ Is Our Example

- **Was the Soul Created With Sin (Inbred, Inherited)?**
 - Ezekiel 18:4 God said "all souls are mine"
 - Psalm 139:13 God places the soul in the body @ conception ("covered me")
 - Jesus was "in all things made like unto his brethren"
 - He is our "example" (1 Peter 2:21)
 - Was Jesus created with inbred or inherited sin?
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21 "for he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin"
 - Hebrews 4:15 Jesus "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin"
 - 1 John 3:5 "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin."
- **Which came first — the soul or the body?**
 - Hebrews 10:5 "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he [Jesus] saith . . . a body hast thou prepared me"
 - there was a "me" [Christ] before there was "a body"
 - Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"
 - "child is born" had a beginning (Jesus – His name shall be called Jesus)
 - "son is given" (Christ moved in – He was already in existence)
 - John 1:1, 14 "the Word" was at the beginning (Creation), "And the Word was made flesh"
 - He was "the Word" before He became the "flesh"
 - Micah 5:2 "out of thee [Bethlehem] shall he come forth ... whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."
 - Psalm 90:2 "from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God"
 - God the Son has always existed (eternal); He was given a body when He came to earth
- **What Happens at Death?** (Look at Jesus' example)
 - **Spirit** — Luke 23:46 "into thy hands I commend my spirit" (spirit goes to God)
 - **Body** — Mark 6:29 "And when his disciples heard of it, they came and took up his corpse, and laid it in a tomb" (body goes to the grave)
 - **Soul** — Luke 23:43 "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise" (soul goes into eternity)
- **Why Does It Matter?**
 - The body is what we see
 - we spend a lot of time, money, and thought on the body
 - but it is temporary
 - The soul must be considered first and above all in our decisions
 - We HAVE a body
 - We POSSESS a spirit
 - We ARE a soul
 - When we understand the distinction:
 - we make every decision with ETERNITY (the eternal, never-dying portion of us) in mind
 - "seek first the kingdom of God [eternal, spiritual things] then all these things [physical, earthly things]" (Matthew 6:33)
 - Must ask "How will this (schooling, career, marriage, relocation, purchases) affect my soul?"
 - 1 Thess. 5:23 "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

- spirit and soul and body – the entire, complete man
- "sanctify" – consecrate, set apart by God for His purpose
- true sanctification includes all three:
 - **body:** "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection" (1 Corinthians 9:27)
 - **soul:** "let him deny himself" (Luke 9:23)
 - **spirit:** "hear what the Spirit saith" (Revelation 2:17); "your ears hear" (Matt. 13:16)