

# **BIBLE TEACHING REGARDING MAN**

## **PART ONE: Man: The image of God**

### **A. Defined and described**

1. Human beings were created in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27). This includes both men and women.
2. Since God is spirit, bodily appearance and gender have nothing to do with the image of God (John 4:24). By definition a spirit does not possess flesh and bones (Luke 24:39).

### **B. Effects of the fall of man**

1. Loss of the moral image of God (Ephesians 4:24). This is restored to us when we trust Christ as Savior. It is the new self which is said to be created in righteousness and true holiness.
2. There was a loss of immortality which came as a result of every human being in Adam (1 Corinthians 15:21-22). We have had the earthly, marred image but will bear the heavenly, unmarred image (1 Corinthians 15:47-49).
3. After the fall of man, human beings retained some semblance of God's image (Genesis 9:5-6; James 3:9). The perfect tense is used in James 3:9 shows that man was created in the image of God in the past with the result that He still is created in that image.
4. Based on a comparison of Ephesians 4:24 with James 3:9 the image of God in man was defaced but it was not erased.

### **C. Human response to restore God's image**

1. Romans 1:23 explains that man has participated in idolatry to bring God down to our level or even to the animal level beneath us. Because God is silent for the most part outside of scripture, people have falsely believed that God is just like us (Psalm 50:21).
2. Acts 17:29 notes that man uses his most valued things and best artistic efforts and thoughts to communicate and restore God's image. This is to no avail.
3. Exodus 20:4 – Besides human beings and the animal world, man has tried to use things in the sky, water or on earth to be God's image.

### **D. The restoration of God's image**

1. 2 Corinthians 4:4 and Colossians 1:15 show us that Christ Himself is the visible image of the invisible God. For this reason Jesus explained that those who had seen Him had seen the Father (John 14:8-9).
2. Christ indwells the believer (Colossians 1:27; Galatians 2:20) so that the believer's human spirit is alive with the life of God (Romans 8:10). This occurs at the moment of salvation when our human spirit is made alive or no longer separated from God. (John 3:6).

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### **E. The responsibility of the believer in the light of this restoration**

- 1. Our responsibility in light of this restoration (Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:9-10):**
  - a. To put off or dethrone our old capacity with its behaviors.**
  - b. To put on or enthrone our new capacity with its behaviors.**
  - c. To continually be renewed in our innermost thoughts (Ephesians 4:23).**
- 2. Romans 13:14 tells us to put on or enthrone the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh or our old sinful nature.**

### **F. God's responsibility in light of this restoration**

- 1. 2 Corinthians 3:18 explain that God continually transforms us through the working of the Holy Spirit into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ from one degree of glory to another degree of glory.**
- 2. Romans 8:28-29 tells us that God works all things – good or bad – together for our good and to conform us to the image or likeness of Jesus Christ.**
- 3. 1 Corinthians 15:49; 1 John 3:2 both show that God will totally make us to like Jesus Christ when Christ returns. Psalm 17:15 also teaches that we will bear God's likeness when we awake. Since the soul does not sleep (Revelation 6:9-11) but the body is said to sleep (1 Corinthians 15:51-53), this refers to the time when Christ returns and we are raised bodily from the dead (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).**

### **G. The believer's responsibility because man is in God's image**

- 1. Genesis 9:5-6 cp. Romans 13:4 – uphold the right and authority of government to carry out capital punishment.**
- 2. James 3:9 – Avoid speaking ill of fellow-man.**

### **H. Summary**

- 1. The unsaved possess only a marred image of God.**
- 2. The saved possess both a marred image of God in the old self/man/nature and an unmarred image of God in the new self/man/nature. The saved person must choose to which of these capacities he responds in facing the choices of life.**
- 3. In eternity the saved person will possess only an unmarred image of God in the new self/man/nature**

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### **PART TWO: The Outer Man**

#### **A. Term used to designate the outer man**

1. Matthew 6:22 – the body
2. Galatians 2:20 – the flesh. Some translators put “body” but it is the same Greek word that is translated “flesh” elsewhere.
3. Philippians 3:21 – “the body of our humble state” in the NAS and “our lowly body” in the NKJV and NIV.
4. 2 Corinthians 4:7 – “earthen vessels” or “jars of clay”
5. 2 Corinthians 4:16 – “outer man” or “outward man”

#### **B. Creation of the body**

1. Genesis 2:7; 1 Corinthians 15:47 – God formed man from the dust of the ground. Man is described as “earthy” by the NAS or “of the dust” by the NIV, NKJV and ESV.
2. Psalm 100:3 – In our praise to God, we must remember that God made us and we did not make ourselves or come into being by ourselves.
3. Psalm 139:14 explains that we are to thank God because we are fearfully and wonderfully made.
4. Psalm 64:8 – Just as the potter makes his works of clay so we are the work of God formed to be His work and to accomplish His purposes.
5. Job 4:17-19 – The point is that we are simply a house of clay where our soul and spirit live, and we cannot be just before God. We must have help.
6. Psalm 103:13-14 – God is merciful to us because He recognizes that we are nothing but dust.

#### **C. The judgment of the body**

1. Genesis 3:19 – Because of Adam’s sin, our bodies return to the dust of which God made them.
2. Romans 5:12 – Sin entered the world through the one man, Adam. As a result physical death passes on to all human beings because they participate in Adam’s sin by God’s way of thinking.
3. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22 – Because we are in Adam we are subject to physical death and because we are in Christ, we will experience a physical resurrection.
4. Romans 8:10 – Because of our sin nature, our bodies are dead, and subject to suffering and decay. Our human spirit is alive because of the righteousness God requires being put to our credit when we trust Christ for salvation (Romans 4:4, 5, 22-24).
5. 1 Peter 4:6 – As human beings we believers experience God’s judgment in our bodies in the form of physical death but experience God’s life in our spirits.

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### **D. The body and salvation**

Hebrews 10:22 explains that we experience outer cleansing when we trust Christ as Savior. How we live outwardly changes because of this. The water in this illustration pictures the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:11 cp. John 7:37-39) working through the word of God (Ephesians 5:26).

### **E. Physical death and the body**

1. James 2:26 – The physical body without the human spirit is dead.
2. 2 Corinthians 5:6-8 states that while we are at home in the body (physically alive), we are absent from the Lord. When we are absent from our physical body (physically dead), we are present with the Lord.
3. 2 Corinthians 12:1-4 makes it clear that there is consciousness apart from the body.

### **F. The future of the physical body**

1. For the saved
  - a. Romans 8:11 – Our mortal bodies will be given life.
  - b. Philippians 3:21 states that this body we have now will be changed to be like Christ's resurrection body. Luke 24:33-43 gives a detailed description of the resurrection body of Christ.
  - c. 1 Corinthians 15:49 describes the future state of our body as bearing the image of the heavenly man, i.e. Christ and the former state of our body as bearing the image of the earthly man (cp. Genesis 5:3).
  - d. Romans 8:23 speaks of the future redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:21 states that we along with all creation will be set free from the bondage to corruption or decay. 1 Corinthians 15:53-54 speaks of our bodies being made imperishable or incorruptible to address this bondage to corruption or decay. The Holy Spirit is the present earnest deposit that God has given of this future redemption (Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30). For this reason we do not want to grieve Him by living by the dictates of what we were before we trusted Christ for salvation.
2. For the unsaved
  - a. Matthew 5:29-30 tells us that the whole body of the unsaved will go to hell.
  - b. Matthew 10:28 – Both soul and body are said to be destroyed in hell. The Greek word for "destroyed" does not mean loss of being but of well-being.
  - c. Matthew 22:13 – Hell will be a place of weeping (emotional pain) and gnashing of teeth (physical pain). It is referred to as outer darkness where there is no light from God.
  - d. Matthew 25:41, 46 – While prepared for the devil and his angels, hell is a place where the unsaved go for eternal punishment.
  - e. Revelation 14:10-11 – There will be no rest or let-up of this torment, day or night.

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### **G. The body and sanctification**

1. 1 Corinthians 6:13 – Our body is for the use of the Lord and for the use of satisfying our physical drives for food and sex. These drives need to be met under the Lord's direction and not our own impulse or whim.
2. 1 Corinthians 6:15-17 – Our physical bodies are parts of Christ because of having been joined to Him when we were saved. It is not logical or consistent with our spiritual relationship with Christ to join our bodies which are part of Christ to a sexual act outside of the boundaries of marriage.
3. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 – We are to avoid and move away from situations and behaviors which lead to sexual sin. On the positive side, we are to use our bodies to honor or glorify God. Another way of saying this is to make our bodies and the purpose for which we use them an advertisement for God. Our motive for this is to remember that the believer's body is indwelt by God, the Holy Spirit making it a temple (holy place).
4. Romans 12:1-2 – We are encouraged to surrender (same Greek word "as put at the disposal of another" as in Matthew 26:53) our bodies to God. To do this we must give up our will for His will (Matthew 26:39), not be conformed to the times in which we are living (2 Timothy 3:1-5) and to be transformed from the inside/out by the renewing of our minds. The motive for this is to experience that good, acceptable (or pleasing) and perfect will of God.
5. Romans 6:11-13 – We are also to surrender the members/parts of our bodies to God as instruments to do what is right and not to surrender them to our sinful nature to do what is not right. The word for surrender is the same Greek word that is used in Romans 12:1.
6. 2 Corinthians 7:1 – We must deal with both inner and outer sin. As we do this, we keep on completing or perfecting holiness (=being set apart for God's purpose rather than our own or rather than that of other people).
7. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 – As believers, each of us are responsible to discipline our bodies by exercising self-control in living out a purposeful life that seeks the lasting rewards of God.
8. James 3:2, 6 – Control of the tongue is a critical part of controlling our bodies. If we can control our tongues, we show we are mature and are able to control the rest of our body as well. Failure to control the tongue defiles the entire body. To defile the body is to make it so that it cannot be useful for God's purposes.
9. Philippians 1:20 – Whether we live or whether we face death, our goal is to use our bodies to show the greatness of Jesus Christ.
10. Colossians 2:20-23 – Severe treatment of the body is nothing more than manmade devotion to God and does not prevent the old sinful nature in us from expressing itself in us.
11. 1 Timothy 4:8 – Bodily exercise is helpful but only for this life
12. 2 Corinthians 4:10-11 – Present bodily suffering is opportunity for the resurrection life of Christ to be seen at work in our bodies.

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### **PART THREE: The Inner Man**

#### **A. Introduction**

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 4:12 – The soul and spirit are distinct.
2. Mark 12:30 – The heart, soul and mind are distinct.
3. Ephesians 4:23 suggests that the spirit is part of the mind, yet 1 Corinthians 14:14-15 suggests there is some distinction between them.
4. Hebrews 10:22 – The conscience is seen to be part of the heart.
5. Sometimes the terms, “soul, spirit, heart” or “mind” are used to designate the entire inner man. Hebrew writers would use one part to stand for the whole inner or outer man and even sometimes for the whole man – inner and outer.
6. Since God is spirit (John 4:24) and a spirit does not have flesh or bones (Luke 24:39), it seems likely that the inner man is brought into being at conception and this is where the image of God is to be found in people.
  - a. James 3:9 – All people possess this divine image.
  - b. Genesis 5:1, 3 – Adam possessed the likeness of God and had a son, Seth, in his own likeness which includes this image of God.
  - c. Psalm 51:5 – Man possesses a sinful nature at conception as a result of the fall. If this part of the inner man is passed on at conception, logically the image of God is passed on at that time.
7. The sinful nature will not be a part of this study but will be dealt with in the study entitled “Sin.”

#### **B. Salvation and the inner man**

1. The soul (1 Peter 1:22-25)
  - a. The obedience spoken of by Peter is obeying the gospel which means to trust Christ for salvation (Romans 10:16). Peter uses this term “obey” or its related words as synonyms for obeying the condition for receiving Christ which is to trust Him. See also 1 Peter 1:2; 2:7; 3:1; 4:17; Acts 5:32.
  - b. vv. 23-25 also support the idea that salvation is being discussed.
  - c. The soul is purified as a result of this decision to trust Christ.
2. The human spirit
  - a. John 3:6 – Our human spirit is said to be born again of the Holy Spirit. Prior to salvation our human spirit is obviously dead which does not mean it is non-existent but that it is separated from God.
  - b. Romans 8:10 – Our bodies are said to be dead because of sin but our human spirits are alive because the righteousness God requires has been put to our credit when we trusted Christ for salvation (Romans 4:3-5, 22-24).
  - c. Ezekiel 36:25-27 – When we trust Christ, we will receive forgiveness of sins, receive a new heart and new spirit, and have the indwelling Holy Spirit.
  - d. Isaiah 29:24 – Prior to salvation, we erred in spirit but after salvation, we know the truth.

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### **3. heart**

- a. Ezekiel 36:25-27 – see 2c above.
- b. Romans 10:9-10 – Our heart places faith in Christ.
- c. Acts 15:9 – Our hearts are said to be cleansed or purified by faith.
- d. Romans 2:29 – Our heart is said to be circumcised by the Holy Spirit. This is a de-throning of the flesh, i.e. sinful nature.

### **4. mind**

- a. Hebrews 10:16 – Our mind has God's law written upon it.
- b. Romans 8:6 – Our mind is no longer set against God.
- c. The word repentance means "change of mind" and occurs when we trust Christ (Acts 11:18).

### **5. conscience**

- a. Hebrews 10:22 – Our hearts are sprinkled clean from an evil conscience.
- b. Hebrews 9:14 – The blood of Christ is the ongoing remedy of God that keeps on cleansing our consciences.

### **6. will**

- a. Revelation 22:17; John 6:40 – Our wills are involved in trusting Christ to receive salvation.
- b. John 1:13 – Our will does not determine the benefits of salvation. The example here is the new birth.
- c. Romans 9:17 – Our human wills cannot determine the terms or conditions upon which God extends mercy or forgiveness.
- d. Matthew 26:39 cp. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 – God's will not man's will determines how salvation will be provided.

Illustration: God's will determines the prescription for salvation, how the prescription will be taken or received, and the benefits that the prescription will provide for the one who takes it. The will of each individual decides whether or not he will take the prescription.

## **C. The inner man of the unsaved**

### **1. His soul (Note: All these references omit the word "soul" in the NIV).**

- a. Habakkuk 2:4 – His soul is not right or upright within him.
- b. Acts 3:23 – Any soul that does not give heed to Jesus as God's prophet will be judged.
- c. Romans 2:9 – Sin brings trouble and distress on the soul of one who does evil.
- d. Matthew 10:28 – Both soul and body of the unsaved person will be destroyed in hell. Note the Greek word translated "destroy" does not mean to annihilate but to bring to a state of ruin.

2. His spirit – Romans 8:10 – The saved person's spirit is alive because the righteousness God requires has been put to his credit (Romans 4:3-5, 22-24). Therefore, because the unsaved person lacks that righteousness because of his unbelief, his human spirit is dead, i.e. separated from God. Isaiah 29:24 shows that prior to salvation the unsaved person lacks the truth because he errs in his spirit.

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### **3. His heart**

- a. Romans 1:21 – His heart is said to be foolish and darkened.
- b. Romans 2:5 – His heart is said to be stubborn, i.e. resistant to God's truth and unrepentant which means he is not willing to change his mind and look at things from God's viewpoint.
- c. Acts 28:27 – The hearts of those who have heard and continued to refuse to believe despite evidence from God are made dull and without understanding.
- d. 2 Corinthians 3:15 – Jewish people have a veil over their heart that greatly hinders them from believing. This is the hardness in part that exists among them to the gospel (cp. Romans 11:25).
- e. Ephesians 4:18 – There is a hardness or blindness in the heart of the unsaved which makes them ignorant which in turn excludes them from the life of God and darkens their understanding.

### **4. His mind**

- a. 2 Corinthians 3:14 – Unbelieving Jewish people were hardened and still are even to this day. This hardness and veiling is removed when they trust Christ and at the same time are placed in Christ by the Holy Spirit's baptizing work (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- b. Titus 1:15-16 – The minds of unsaved people who profess to be saved are defiled (= unsuitable for God's use).
- c. Ephesians 4:17 – Unsaved people live their lives in futile/spiritually empty in their thinking or minds. We who have trusted Christ are commanded not to live in that manner.
- d. Ephesians 2:3 – The unsaved live driven by the desires of their sinful nature which include desires of the body and the mind.
- e. Romans 8:6 – The mindset of the unsaved person is death (=separation from God).
- f. 2 Corinthians 4:4 – Satan as the god of this age or time period has blinded the minds of unsaved people so they cannot see or understand the truth of the gospel.

### **5. His conscience**

- a. Titus 1:15-16 – The conscience of the unsaved person who professes to be saved is defiled (= unsuitable for God's use).
- b. Hebrews 9:14 – The conscience of the unsaved person is full of dead works. These are good works done apart from faith.
- c. Romans 2:14-15 – Unsaved Gentiles show that God's law is revealed in their conscience. When they obey it, their conscience defends or excuses them. When they disobey God's law, their conscience accuses them.

### **6. His will**

- a. John 5:40 – The nation of Israel's problem at this point in Christ's ministry was their unwillingness to trust Him for salvation life.
- b. Romans 6:16-18 – The choice of an unbeliever is needed to change His standing from a slave of sin to a slave of righteousness.



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### **D. The inner man after this life**

- 1. soul**
  - a. unsaved -Matthew 10:28 – thrown into hell by God along with the body at the time of the resurrection of the lost.
  - b. Genesis 35:18 – The soul leaves the body at death.
  - c. 1 Kings 17:21 – For a body to live, the soul must return to it.  
The word translated “life” in this verse is the Hebrew word “nephesh” for “soul.”
  - d. Revelation 6:9-11 – The soul of the saved person, before the resurrection of the body, is obviously conscious, has memory and is able to give and receive communication.
- 2. spirit**
  - a. Ecclesiastes 12:7 – When the body becomes dust, the spirit returns to God.
  - b. James 2:26 cp. Luke 8:55– The spirit leaves the body at death
  - c. Hebrews 12:22-23 – The spirits of the Old Testament believers are in heaven (cp. Hebrews 11:39-40).
- 3. heart** –Nothing is mentioned concerning the heart beyond this life.
- 4. mind** - Isaiah 65:17 – For the saved, the former things will not be remembered when the new heavens and new earth are created.
- 5. conscience** – nothing is said about the conscience beyond this life.
- 6. will**
  - a. Revelation 22:11 – The one who is saved will have his will made so he continues to do what is right and holy while the one who is unsaved will be left in his will to do what is wrong and filthy.
  - b. 1 John 3:2 – This transformation of the will of the believer will occur when Christ appears at the rapture.

### **E. The role of the inner man in practical or progressive sanctification**

- 1. The soul**
  - a. The soul can help our sanctification
    - (1) Luke 10:27 – It is to be involved in loving God.
    - (2) Deuteronomy 4:29 – We are to search for God in seeking to fellowship with Him with all our soul.
    - (3) Deuteronomy 10:12 – Not only are we to love God with all our soul, we are to serve Him with all our soul.
    - (4) Deuteronomy 11:18 – God’s word is to be internalized on our soul
    - (5) Deuteronomy 26:16 – We are to obey God with all our soul.
    - (6) 1 Peter 2:11 – The soul is involved in opposing the desires of our sinful nature.
    - (7) Ephesians 6:6 – We are to do the will of God from the soul when it comes to our conduct in the workplace. The word “soul” is translated “heart” in most translations.

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### **b. The soul can hinder our sanctification**

- (1) Micah 6:7 – Our soul can be involved in sin.
- (2) Proverbs 22:24-25 – Our soul can be ensnared into anger problems if we keep company with a hot-tempered person. The word “yourselves” is literally translated “your souls.”
- (3) James 1:8 – When we fail to believe God will answer our prayers, it is because we are literally “two-souled”
- (4) James 4:8 – We also said to be literally “two-souled” when we allow sin in our thought-life.

### **2. The spirit**

#### **a. The spirit can help our sanctification**

- (1) Ephesians 4:23 – We are to continually be renewed in our human spirit
- (2) 1 Peter 3:4 –A gentle (sensitive to the viewpoint and perspective of others) and quiet (not argumentative or contradictory) spirit is very valuable to God.
- (3) Romans 8:16 – The human spirit works with the Holy Spirit in assuring believers that they truly are God’s children.

#### **b. The spirit can hinder our sanctification**

- (1) 2 Corinthians 7:1 - In order for us to be holy or set apart for God’s purpose, we must cleanse ourselves of outward sins and inward sins which are said to be the filth or defilement of the spirit. We do this by confessing the sins to God (1 John 1:9) and by obeying God’s word (Psalm 119:9).
- (2) 1 Thessalonians 5:23 – The spirit needs to partake of God’s sanctifying work showing that it is not sinless.

### **3. The heart**

#### **a. The heart can help our sanctification**

- (1) Proverbs 3:5 – It is with our heart that we trust God for the struggles and needed guidance for the Christian life.
- (2) Psalm 119:11 – As we hide God’s word in our hearts, it helps us to avoid sin.
- (3) Philippians 4:6-7 – As we avoid worry and pray specifically and thankfully, God’s peace guards our heart.
- (4) 2 Corinthians 9:7 – Believers are to give the percentage that their heart purposes. It is a safe gauge for making this decision.
- (5) Ephesians 6:5 – A focused heart is part of doing our work as if working for Christ.
- (6) 2 Thessalonians 2:17 – We can pray that the hearts of other believers will be strengthened for every type of good work and for speaking what is good.
- (7) Colossians 2:2 – The heart can be encouraged, and be joined with other believers in practicing love.
- (8) 2 Chronicles 11:16 - The heart can be set on seeking fellowship with God.

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### **b. The heart can hinder our sanctification**

- (1) Jeremiah 17:9 – The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked.**
- (2) Proverbs 28:26 – We are a fool (in rebellion against God and His word) if we trust in our heart.**
- (3) Hebrews 3:8 – Our hearts can be hardened when we fail to respond in obedience to God's word.**
- (4) Hebrews 3:10 – We can go astray in our hearts.**
- (5) Hebrews 3:12 – We can have sin or unbelief in our heart and move away from God in fellowshiping with Him.**
- (6) Acts 5:3-4 – We can let Satan fill or control our hearts and we can use our heart to come up with sinful plans or acts.**
- (7) James 1:26 – We can deceive our own heart when it comes to correctly evaluating our spirituality or devotion to God.**
- (8) James 3:14 – The heart can be the source of bitter jealousy and selfish ambition.**
- (9) Romans 16:18 – Our hearts can be led astray by the smooth and flattering speech of false teachers.**

### **4. The mind**

#### **a. The mind can help our sanctification**

- (1) Romans 12:2 – We are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind.**
- (2) Philippians 4:8 – We are responsible to use our minds to think on those things which are: true, worthy of respect, right, pure, harmonious, of good repute or well-spoken of, excellent, and worthy of praise.**
- (3) Colossians 3:2 – We are responsible to set our mind on heavenly values (God's viewpoint) and not earthly values (the world's viewpoint).**
- (4) Romans 12:16 – We are think of others with the same mind and not have an inflated sense of our own importance or of our own wisdom.**
- (5) Philippians 1:27 – Show unity of mind with other believers in our struggle together to promote faith in the gospel.**
- (6) Philippians 2:2-3 – Our mind is to be used: to show unity so that the joy of spiritual believers is made complete and to think of others as more important than ourselves.**

#### **b. The mind can hinder our sanctification**

- (1) Colossians 2:18 – When our mind looks to visions not in keeping with God's word in its testimony of Christ, it is easy to become inflated with a false pride.**
- (2) Romans 12:16 – When our mind has an inflated sense of our own importance, it makes us less Christlike.**
- (3) Matthew 16:23 – We hinder God's purpose and promote Satan's purpose when we focus our mind on man's interests instead of God's interests.**

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### **5. The conscience**

#### **a. The conscience can help our sanctification**

- (1) Acts 24:16 – We need to put forth effort to keep our conscience free of anything in God’s sight or man’s sight that would cause us or others to sin.**
- (2) 1 Timothy 1:5 – In order to have the kind of love God wants us to have, we must have a good conscience.**
- (3) Romans 13:5 –Obey governmental authorities not only to avoid punishment but also to keep a good conscience.**
- (4) 1 Peter 2:19 – To bear up under sorrows and pain when suffering unjustly under authorities in the workplace or other settings benefits our conscience.**
- (5) 1 Peter 3:16 – If we keep a good conscience, those who slander and insult us for the resulting good behavior will be put to shame.**

#### **b. The conscience can hinder our sanctification**

- (1) 1 Timothy 1:19 – If we reject a good conscience, we will ruin ourselves in obeying the truth of the New Testament. The words “their faith” in the NAS and NIV should be translated as in the NKJV by the words “the faith.”**
- (2) Romans 14:14, 23 – Whatever is not of faith is sin. Since revelation from God is needed for faith and since this deals with issues concerning which God’s word does not give a definite answer, the revelation would come from our conscience. Our conscience might forbid us to do some activity that some other believer’s conscience would see as perfectly okay. To go against our conscience would not be of faith and for that reason, it would be sin.**

### **6. The will**

#### **a. Our will may help our sanctification**

- (1) Philippians 2:12-13 – God works in us both to give us the will and the ability to do His will. We can use our will to decide to work outwardly in harmony with God’s working.**
- (2) Colossians 1:29 – God’s power works in us mightily. We can choose to work or strive in harmony with God’s power.**
- (3) 1 Corinthians 3:9 – When it comes to working in the lives of unbelievers to help them trust Christ and building into the lives of believers to help them grow, we are working together with God.**

#### **b. Our will may hinder our sanctification**

- (1) Matthew 26:41 – As believers our will alone cannot resist temptation because the flesh (old sin nature) is weak.**
- (2) Romans 7:15-23 – When we depend on our will alone to obey God’s word, we see that we want to obey God’s word inwardly, but the law of sin in our flesh or old sin nature overwhelms us.**

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### **F. Some additional observations**

1. All men saved or lost have a human spirit (James 2:26; 1 Corinthians 2:11; Luke 8:55; Numbers 16:22; Zechariah 12:1).
2. The Holy Spirit and human spirit are not one and the same (Romans 8:16; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:23).
3. Both soul and spirit can glorify God (Luke 1:46-47).
4. The soul and spirit of Jesus Christ
  - a. Both involved in His death (Isaiah 53:10-12; John 10:15 (life=soul); 19:30).
  - b. Both involved in His sorrow (Matthew 26:38; John 11:33).
5. Soul and spirit are used as adjectives
  - a. 1 Corinthians 2:14-15 – Natural (=soulish) man and spiritual man.
  - b. 1 Corinthians 15:44 – natural (=soulish) body cp. spiritual (or resurrection) body.
6. Avoid the myth of promotion of the human spirit over the human soul because either one can help or hinder sanctification which is the ongoing process from the time we are saved to conform us to the image of Christ.

## **PART FOUR: The fall of man**

### **A. The Test**

1. Genesis 2:16-17 – People could eat from any tree of the garden with one exception. That exception was, The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
2. God warned that the penalty was that they would die spiritually and then physically.

The literal translation of the last part of Genesis 2:17 is, “In the day you eat of it,

Dying {spiritually}, you shall die {physically}.

### **B. The facts of the fall**

1. Genesis 3:1 cp. Revelation 12:9 – Satan offered the temptation to question God’s word.
2. Genesis 3:2 – Eve’s response in omitting the word, “freely,” showed that she did not understand the great freedom that she and Adam had in being able to freely eat of all the trees except one.
3. Genesis 3:3 – Eve left out the certainty of God’s judgment in leaving out the word “surely.” She also had added the concept that she could not even touch the fruit making God seem more restrictive than he actually was.
4. Genesis 3:4 – Satan as the serpent (Revelation 12:9) promoted the denial of the truth of God’s word and the reality of God’s judgment.

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5. Genesis 3:5 – Satan stated two things that were true:
- a. The opening of their eyes spiritually cp. Genesis 3:7). It was obvious that Adam and Eve had physical sight prior to the fall (cp. Genesis 3:6).
  - b. Adam and Eve would know good and evil (cp. Genesis 3:22). This is the capacity of conscience.
  - c. Satan's strategy is to mix truth with error so that we will adopt the false belief system with error.
6. Genesis 3:6 – Eve was deceived (1 Timothy 2:14). By comparing this passage with 1 John 2:16, we see an interesting parallel:

<b>1 John 2:16</b>	<b>Genesis 3:6</b>
The lust of the flesh	Saw the tree was good for food
The lust of the eyes	A delight to the eyes
Boastful pride of life	The tree was desirable to make one wise

Adam sinned deliberately when Eve gave him the fruit.

### C. The results of the fall

1. Genesis 3:14 cp. Romans 8:19-22 – The serpent was made to crawl on his belly and the rest of creation was cursed with being in bondage to decay.
2. Genesis 3:15 – Satan would give Christ a non-lasting wound and Christ would give him a career-ending wound (cp. Romans 16:20).
3. Genesis 3:16 - The woman would have painful childbirth and be under the authority of her husband.
4. Genesis 3:17-19 – Penalties for Adam which also affected Eve
  - a. The cursing of the ground so that it brings forth plants that are not helpful or useful.
  - b. hard work
  - c. physical death (Romans 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22).
  - d. Genesis 2:16-17 cp. Ephesians 2:1 – Spiritual death
  - e. Revelation 20:14 – Ultimately the 2<sup>nd</sup> death in the lake of fire
5. Genesis 3:22-24 – Man lost his access to the tree of life and was cast out of the Garden of Eden.

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### **PART FIVE: Spiritual Categories of men**

#### **A. The natural man (unbeliever)**

1. 1 Corinthians 2:14
  - a. unreceptive to the things of the Holy Spirit such as God's word.  
- reason: he considers them foolishness
  - b. He lacks the capacity or ability to understand the things of the Spirit of God  
- reason: these things are spiritually discerned, i.e. require the help of the Holy Spirit.
2. Jude 1:19- The word "natural" is translated "worldly-minded" by the NAS, "sensual" by the NKJV, and "follow natural instincts by the NIV. The passage states that the natural man does not have the Holy Spirit.
3. Romans 8:5-8
  - a. set their minds on the things of the flesh or old sin nature.
  - b. they are spiritually dead
  - c. hostile toward God
  - d. refuses to obey God's word
  - e. lacks the capacity or ability to obey God's word
  - f. lacks the capacity or ability to please God
4. Ephesians 2:1-3
  - a. spiritually dead in sins
  - b. lives his life based on the course of this world (see 1 John 2:16)
    - (1) principle of pleasure which is called the desire of the flesh or sinful nature
    - (2) principle of possessions which is called the desire or lust of the eye
    - (3) principle of prominence which is called the pride of life
  - c. Satan is at work in him
  - d. live their life in the desire or lust of their sinful nature fulfilling the desires of their body and mind
  - e. By nature or birth they are children, i.e. objects, of wrath.
5. Ephesians 2:11-13
  - a. separate from Christ
  - b. foreigners to the covenants God has made with Israel
  - c. without hope
  - d. without God
  - e. far off from God
6. Ephesians 4:17-18
  - a. futile or meaningless thinking
  - b. darkened understanding
  - c. excluded from the spiritual life of God; reasons for this:
    - (1) ignorance or lack of knowing
    - (2) hardened hearts
7. 2 Corinthians 4:4 – blinded by Satan to the truth of the gospel.

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8. Galatians 5:19-21 – The natural man will be characterized by one or more of the following sins: adultery (only in KJV and NKJV), immorality, impurity, preoccupation with bodily pleasure, using anything or anyone as a substitute for God, sorcery or dabbling with any occult practice, showing hostility to people, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, divisions based on teachings or practices contrary to God's word, setting up a faction - in this case contrary to God's word, envying, drunkenness, parties where there is wild or uncontrolled behavior.

### **B. The spiritual man (believer)**

1. 1 Corinthians 2:15 – The spiritual man accurately appraises all the things of God, but no one can accurately appraise him.
2. Romans 8:5-6 – Description of the spiritual believer
  - a. His mind is focused on the things of the Holy Spirit
  - b. Because he has a spiritual mindset, he experiences and communicates the life of Christ.
  - c. Because he has a spiritual mindset, he experiences and communicates the peace of Christ.
3. Galatians 5:16,18, 22-23
  - a. Galatians 5:16 – The spiritual believer walks by the Spirit. This means that he recognizes that just as He received the Holy Spirit by faith in Christ (Galatians 3:26 cp. Galatians 4:6, he is made mature by faith (Galatians 3:2-3) in Christ (Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:6; John 7:37-39).
  - b. Galatians 5:18 – If a believer is led by the Holy Spirit, he is not under the Old Testament law (see also Romans 7:4-6). He is under the law of Christ (1 Corinthians 9:20-21) which consists of all His commandments given during His earthly ministry and after His earthly ministry through the Apostles in the New Testament (John 14:26; 16:12-15; 2 Peter 3:2).



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- c. Galatians 5:22-23 – The outcome of walking by or living our life by the leading of the Holy Spirit is a set of character qualities called the fruit of the Spirit. They are: love for God and our fellow-man (Matthew 22:35-40) and for other believers (John 13:34-35) and even for our enemies (Matthew 5:44-45), joy even in the midst of adversity (James 1:2-4); peace inwardly in our heart (Philippians 4:6-7), with other believers (1 Thessalonians 5:14) and with all people (Hebrews 12:14); patience with everyone (1 Thessalonians 5:13), in waiting for God to work in the face of injustice (Psalm 37:7-9) and for His word to work in the hearts of people (2 Timothy 4:2); kindness in doing good works which emphasize making it easier for all people (1 Thessalonians 5:15) and especially toward other believers in showing forbearance of non-sinful irritations and forgiving sinful actions (Colossians 3:12-14); goodness in doing good works which benefit all people with the priority being given to believers (Galatians 6:10); faithfulness in enduring persecution for the Lord (Revelation 2:10) and in carrying out our stewardship of God's word (1 Corinthians 4:2); gentleness in being sensitive to the feelings and perspectives of believers trapped in sinful choices (Galatians 6:1) and in false belief systems (2 Timothy 2:24-26) and of unbelievers in our model and message (1 Peter 3:4, 15); and self-control of our body in its physical drives (1 Corinthians 7:5, 9; 9:24-25) so that it may glorify God (1 Corinthians 6:20).
- 4. 1 Corinthians 14:37 – Recognizing that Paul's writings are God's commands is an essential test of spirituality, particularly in the area of regulating the use of spiritual gifts.
- 5. 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 cp. Hebrews 5:11-14 – He is able to understand and obediently apply God's word in its basic and advanced teachings.

### C. The carnal man (believer)

- 1. 1 Corinthians 3:1-4
  - a. The carnal believer is stated to be like a new Christian in his effectiveness in being used for Christ (3:1).
  - b. The carnal believer is able only to understand the basics of God's word (3:2 cp. Hebrews 5:11-13).
  - c. Jealousy and quarreling are the marks of a carnal believer and show us to be no different in these areas of behavior from the unsaved in the way we behave (3:3-4).

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2. 2 Corinthians 12:20-21 – Other sins that show themselves in carnal behavior are quarreling, jealousy, angry tempers, disputes (better translated, “selfish ambition”), slander, gossip, arrogance, disturbances, impurity, sex outside of marriage and preoccupation with bodily pleasure. When people continue in these sins without any thought, effort or concern to forsake them, they show that they are not just a carnal believer but that they are a counterfeit believer (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21). For this reason, Paul instructed these people in 2 Corinthians 13:5 to examine themselves to see whether or not they are in the faith.
3. 1 Corinthians 11:30-32 cp Hebrews 12:7-8 – One of the distinguishing marks of the carnal believer is that he will be disciplined by God if he does not turn loose of his sin. If someone is without discipline, it shows that they are a counterfeit believer.

### **PART SIX: Divine Institutions for Human Beings**

#### **A. Free Will**

1. Genesis 2:16-17 – God created man upright (Ecclesiastes 7:29). Man was given the choice to obey or disobey God.
2. Because man chose to disobey God, God had in place a salvation plan by which man could choose to be brought into right relationship with God (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; John 3:18). Man is given the choice between no condemnation through faith in Christ or condemnation through a lack of faith in Christ.
3. The unbeliever can have his free will limited by God permanently hardening Him if he rejects overwhelming evidence for the truth of the gospel (John 12:37-40).
4. The believer’s free will is limited after he trusts Christ as Savior (1 John 3:9; Jeremiah 32:40; Ezekiel 36:26-27). He is no longer able to live a lifestyle of uninterrupted sin. To be sure he can sin (1 John 1:8, 10) but how far he goes is obviously limited by God.
5. God limits the free-will actions of people – believers and unbelievers alike (Genesis 11:1-9; 20:6; Job 42:2; Proverbs 21:30; Isaiah 43:13; Daniel 4:35),
6. Conclusion: Man’s free will is not without limits, but it is not bound as taught by those who overemphasize God’s sovereignty.

#### **B. Marriage**

1. God’s design is one man/one woman for life (1 Corinthians 7:2) with the exceptions being the death of one’s spouse (Romans 7:1-2) and scriptural divorce (Matthew 19:9; 1 Corinthians 7:15).
2. The husbands duties to his wife are detailed in 1 Corinthians 7:3-5, 33; Ephesians 5:25, 28-29; 1 Peter 3:7) while the wife’s duties to her husband are detailed in 1 Corinthians 7:3-5, 34; Ephesians 5:33; Titus 2:4-5).

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### **C. Family or Parent/Child Relationship**

1. The parents' duties to the children are given in Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21; 1 Timothy 5:8; 2 Corinthians 12:14
2. The children's duties to their parents are given in Ephesians 6:1-3; 1 Timothy 5:4; Proverbs 23:22

### **D. Government and the governed relationship**

1. Romans 13:1-2; 1 Peter 2:13-14 – The governed are to be in subjection to rulers and their subordinates. This includes the paying of taxes and fees (Romans 13:6-7); showing them respect or honor (Romans 13:7; 1 Peter 2:17) and praying for their well-being and even giving thanks for them. Keep in mind that Nero was the ruler when this was written (1 Timothy 2:1-2 cp. Jeremiah 29:7).
2. Government is a servant of God to promote good behavior and punish bad behavior up to and including capital punishment (Romans 13:3-4; 1 Peter 2:14).

### **E. Supervisor/subordinate relationship in the workplace**

1. The subordinate's duties are in Ephesians 6:5-7 (Obey your supervisor as you would Christ with an eagerness to please them and with a sincere heart. Don't just work when you are being watched by them. Work with a disposition of good will toward them); Colossians 3:22-23 (This obedience is to be in all things. Work is to be done as though you were working for the Lord Jesus Christ); Titus 2:9-10 (We are to seek to be well-pleasing to them, not argumentative, not pilfering, show that we can be fully trusted – in other words be honest in deed and appearance); 1 Timothy 6:1-2 ( Show full respect to your supervisor whether you feel like it or not or whether he or she deserves it or not. If the supervisor is a believer, do not be disrespectful but serve them all the more); 1 Peter 2:18-23 (Show full respect for supervisors who are good and accommodating as well as to those who are unreasonable and harsh, bear up when suffering unjustly, don't sin or be deceitful, return insult for insult, or threaten. Simply entrust yourself to God who is keeping the real record).
2. Colossians 4:1 – Supervisors are to show justice and fairness to subordinates. Ephesians 6:9 – Supervisors are to give up threats against subordinates. Supervisors are to do the same things toward subordinates that are expected of subordinates by them. Ephesians 6:5-7 (Obey your own supervisor as you would Christ with an eagerness to please your employees and with a sincere heart. Don't just work when you are being watched by them. Work with a disposition of good will toward them).

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### **F. Relationship between church leaders and the congregation**

- 1. The congregation is to imitate the faith of their leaders (Hebrews 13:7) and to submit to their authority (Hebrews 13:17). The congregation is to appreciate and esteem their leaders in love and get along with one another (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).**
- 2. Church leaders are to be servant-leaders (Mark 10:42-45) as examples to the congregation (1 Peter 5:3 cp. 1 Timothy 4:12) and not to lord it over them. They are to use the word of God to convince, rebuke and encourage the congregation and to refute error (2 Timothy 4:1-2 cp. Titus 1:9) in a kind, patient and gentle manner rather than a quarrelsome manner (2 Timothy 2:24-26). Leaders have charge over the congregation and instruct them (1 Thessalonians 5:12) and must give an account to God for everyone under their charge (Hebrews 13:17).**