

Five Pillars of Free Grace Theology

Pillar 1 – Justification comes freely through faith alone, but discipleship is costly.

Pillar 2 – There are two kinds of inheritance in the Bible.

Pillar 3 – There are two dimensions to eternal life.

Pillar 4 – It is possible for saved people to fail and become carnal.

Pillar 5 – Justification comes freely through faith alone, but rewards are obtained by works.

Pillar 1 - 3 applied – Salvation of the Soul

Soul = *psyche* which occurs 105 times in the New Testament.

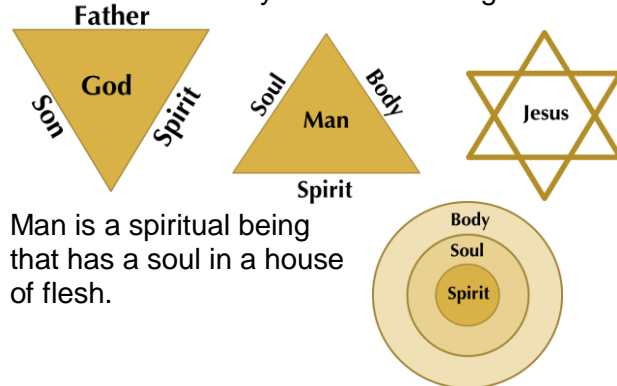
- 1) *Life, breath, the vital force which animates the body, which is seen in breathing.*
- 2) *The soul, the seat of feelings, desires, affections, aversions. As an essence different from the body.*

Question? Is man a dichotomy or trichotomy?

Dichotomy = Man exists as two parts; material (body) and immaterial (spirit and soul).

Trichotomy = Man exists as three parts; body, soul, and spirit.

Man as a trichotomy reflects the image of God



Man is a spiritual being that has a soul in a house of flesh.

What does it mean to “save the soul”?

Justification view – Salvation of the soul is equivalent to John 3:16 and Acts 16:31, etc.

Assumptions:

- Salvation is a synonym of eternal life
- Soul is the total person, soul and spirit

-Genuine faith is a preserving faith, an act of commitment.

Sanctification view – Salvation of the soul is a call to a life of selfless discipleship.

Assumptions:

- It is for disciples, those who already possess eternal life
- It has to do with progressive sanctification and rewards in the kingdom

Defense:

- Matthew 6 and following comes after John chapters 1 through 4. In John 3:24 and 4:1 John the Baptist is still active. In Matthew, Mark, and Luke Jesus' public ministry begins after John the Baptist was imprisoned (Matt. 4:12-17, Mark 1:14-15, Luke 3:20).
- The concept of reward is the basis of the passages in Matthew (5:3, 10; 6:19-24; 6:25-33).
- The disciples are the audience (10:1 and 11:1 = an inclusio).
- The context of Matthew 16, “*whoever wishes to come after me*”.

What does it mean to “save the soul”?

“...the psyche is the part of man which enjoys the joys and pleasures of life...Hence, the man or woman who saves himself by enjoying the passing pleasures of this age to the fullest measure will in fact forfeit or lose their psyche eternally because he or she will actually lose the ability to enjoy those pleasures in the age to come. However, the person who loses his or her psyche in this age by giving up the pleasures of it for the sake of Christ and ministry, will in actual fact save his or her psyche eternally and be able to enjoy the pleasures of the age to come.

That which a man preserves in this age he will in fact lose for all eternity. But that which a man determines to give up in this age he will receive back for all eternity. Hence, the salvation of the soul functions as a reward for individuals who are willing to follow Christ and give up the passing pleasures of this age for the age of the future”.

Fred Chay

Salvation of *the spirit* – Is by faith alone in Christ alone! It is based on the work of Christ alone and man can never add anything to it.

Of the soul – Is based on works and faithfulness and the willingness to suffer and bear whatever cross to which God may call.

Of the body – Is based on the resurrection of Christ and the promise of the resurrection body.