

What Are We?

(The human constitution/The components of humans)

10.13.21

1. What is the soul?

"The Bible is not perfectly clear as to the nature of the human soul. But from studying the way the word *soul* is used in Scripture, we can come to some conclusions. Simply stated, the human soul is the part of a person that is not physical. It is the part of every human being that lasts eternally after the body experiences death" <https://www.gotquestions.org/human-soul.html>

The human soul is central to the personhood of a human being. As George MacDonald said, "You don't have a soul. You are a Soul. You have a body."

--The soul can exist beyond the body

II Cor 5:8 Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord.

--The soul is regenerated at salvation.

II Cor 5:17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Rom 8:10 And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you lifeⁱⁿ because you have been made right with God.

--The spirit/soul departs the body at death

Luke 12:20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! You will die this very night. Then who will get everything you worked for?'

2. What are humans made of?

--Monism

According to this view, all reality is limited to the material world. There is no such thing as spirit, soul, or God. Only those things that can be perceived by the five senses are real. BUT...Scripture stands against this view!

Gen 35:18 Rachel was about to die, but with her last breath she named the baby Ben-oni (which means "son of my sorrow"). The baby's father, however, called him Benjamin (which means "son of my right hand").

Luke 23:43 And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."

--Trichotomy

Man is made of 3 parts....Body Soul Spirit

[1 Thessalonians 5:23](#) Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

--Dichotomy

Body and the soul.

[Luke 1:46–47](#) Mary responded,

“Oh, how my soul praises the Lord.

47 How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

Implications?

--Whether the soul and spirit are one, or are somehow distinct, is not an issue God chose to make abundantly clear in His Word. Whether you believe in a dichotomy or trichotomy, offer your body as a living sacrifice thank God for saving your soul, and worship God in spirit and truth

--Regardless of whether a Christian believes dichotomy or trichotomy best represents an accurate understanding of Scripture, we can all unitedly praise God with the psalmist: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well” ([Psalm 139:14](#)).

--A word of caution:

Some have used the trichotomous position to teach the possibility of [Christians being demon-possessed](#). This teaching is problematic in that there are no biblical references that those who are indwelt by the Holy Spirit can be simultaneously possessed by demons.

3. How did we get our souls?

--Creationism

Creationism is the view that God creates a new soul when a human being is conceived.

[Ecclesiastes 12:7](#) For then the dust will return to the earth, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.;

--Traducianism

Traducianism is the belief that at conception both the child’s body and soul or spirit are passed on to the child from the parents. In other words, the child

inherits both the material and immaterial aspects of his being from his biological parents.. [Genesis 2:7](#) Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.

[Psalm 51:5](#) For I was born a sinner—

yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

--Pre-existentialism

The concept that God created all human souls at the same time, and “attaches” a soul to a human being at the moment of conception. This view holds that there is sort of a “warehouse of souls” in heaven where God stores souls that await a human body to be attached to.

Implications: Ponderations from Mike...(you ae welcome!).

Cloning

Reincarnation

Generational sins

Close: Take care of your body as if you were going to live forever; and take care of your soul as if you were going to die tomorrow.

[Saint Augustine](#)