

# Humanity

ONE: ONE OF A KIND

SESSION TWO: SOULFUL

## OBJECTIVES

- 1. Man was made soulfully by God.**
- 2. Be able to explain what it means to be made soulfully by God.**

THREE: WORKMANSHIP





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## SESSION TWO: SOULFUL

As we have read, man is distinctly fashioned different than all creation. The way in which we were created through a supernatural act of God and the ingredients that were used were extraordinarily unique. Genesis 2:7 says, “the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.” There are specific steps within this magnificent verse we must not ignore:

1. God formed man’s physical body from dust and the ground.
2. God then breathed life into the lifeless physical body which He created.
3. Only after the inbreathing of life did man become a living creature.

Here we are clued into the distinction between the body and the life in which God gives it. This life is defined in the Bible as the “Spirit” or the “Soul”. Let’s look at a couple places in scripture where this is shown before we move on:

**Matthew 10:28 – “Do not be afraid of this who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.”**

**Ecclesiastes 12:7 – “And the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the \_\_\_\_\_ returns to \_\_\_\_\_.”**

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**Matthew 16:26** — “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his \_\_\_\_\_? Or what shall a man give in return for his \_\_\_\_\_?”

**Deuteronomy 6:5** — “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your \_\_\_\_\_ and with all your might.”

God’s creation of us as humankind was two-fold. Not only were we created physically in our bodies bearing the image or God’s character, but also created soulfully, with the capacity for knowing the good things of God — including reflecting the goodness of God himself.

**What does it mean that I have a soul?**

**Read Titus 1:15-16. What does Paul say is corrupted?**

Notice that Paul says both their mind AND their consciences are corrupted. Not that he means a mind can be corrupt without the conscience being the same, or that a corrupt conscience can spare the mind. Paul is purposefully linking the mind and conscience together as they are a unity.

**“ You can’t, except in the lowest animal sense, be in love with a girl if you know (and keep on remembering) that all the beauties both of her person and of her character are a momentary and accidental pattern produced by the collision of atoms, and that your own response to them is only a sort of psychic**

**phosphoresce arising from the behavior of your genes. You can't go on getting very serious pleasure from music if you know and remember that its air of significance is a pure illusion, that you like it only because your nervous system is irrationally conditioned to like it." (Lewis, 2017, p.76).**

Our thoughts, perceptions and understandings are not alone a collection of chemicals and elements causing us to think and behave as such. More so, there is a person, a soul, created and ordained uniquely by God to think, perceive and understand in such a way. Now — because of sin, our perfect perception and relationship with God has been corrupted, as it is stated in Titus (we will unpack this later). However, God, in the beginning, created our souls uniquely and to perfectly operate within our fleshly body. Thoughts, preferences, passions, and pleasures are soulful and make humankind distinct in all the world.

### **Difference Between Soul & Spirit**

#### **Read 1 Corinthians 2:12-16**

It seems on the surface that this passage clearly distinguishes the soul of a man from the spirit of a man, but it in fact does not. The "spiritual man" is not the man who has developed some higher aspect of his own being apart from his soul. Instead his soul has been transformed by the Holy Spirit, and the "spiritual" aspect of the man is a descriptor not of his spirit, but of the Holy Spirit.

The man without the Spirit of God transforming his soul does not understand spiritual truths. But the man who's soul has been touched by the Holy Spirit now has the Spirit of God to understand spiritually discerned truth. Thus — a difference does not exist between soul and spirit. Man is composed of his body and his soul, nothing more. This brings to mind Romans 12:2:

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**“Do not be conformed to this world, but \_\_\_\_\_, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”**

Paul says our minds must be what? Renewed. We do not have this “empty room” in our beings with the word “Spirit” over the doorframe that must be filled if we are to be redeemed. Instead, God, supernaturally through the blood of Christ, renews our souls into redemption.

**How can you tell that someone has a renewed mind?**