

Session 11: Anthropology, Part 2

IV. The Constitutional Nature of the Human

A. Basic Views of the Human Constitution: Trichotomism, Dichotomism, Monism

Trichotomy: the soul includes intellect, emotions, and will. All people have a soul to either serve God or yield to sin. The spirit is a higher faculty that comes alive when a person becomes a Christian.

Dichotomy: Scripture uses the word spirit more frequently when referring to our relationship to God, but such usage is not uniform, and the word soul is also used in all the ways that spirit can be used.

Church heresies: Apollinarianism, Nestorianism, Monophysite Controversy

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B. Biblical Considerations

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Luke 10:27 And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

Psalms 31:9-10 Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; My eye is wasted away from grief, my soul and my body also. For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing; My strength has failed because of my iniquity, and my body has wasted away.

Matthew 10:28 Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

II Corinthians 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Luke 1:46-47 And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior."

II Corinthians 5:8 we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

I Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

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- B. Biblical Considerations
- C. Philosophical Considerations

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- D. Conditional Unity Model and Implications

Conditional Unity Model agrees that humans are both body and soul but also sees those two aspects as totally necessary for a human being to be "complete."

The color green – it's 2 colors mixed together, but it's not "green" if we separate the blue from the yellow." So it is with a human. We can discuss the distinction of body and soul but if we separate them we have neither.

V. The Universality of Humanity

- A. All Races
- B. Genders
- C. The Aged
- D. The Unborn
- E. The Unmarried

Galatians 3:28-29 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.