

# Image of God: Part 4

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## Knowledge of God

### Review

- Many ideas have been suggested for what it means to be made in the image of God: Intelligence, Reasoning ability, Emotions, The ability to commune with God, Self-awareness (sentience), Language/communication ability, The presence of a soul or spirit (or both), The conscience, and Having dominion over the earth. However, it seems that all of these together play a role, and give us the required tools to exercise dominion over the earth.
- Genesis 1:26-28 records God making man in his image, which has significant implications for humanity (i.e. The lives of humans are more important than other creatures, et al).
- Each of the sexes is said to be created in the image of God, eliminating an inferiority of either sex to the other.

### Is Man Body + Soul or Body + Soul + Spirit?

- The two main views that have circulated through churches throughout history are the **Dichotomist View** and the **Trichotomist View**.
  - Dichotomy: man is comprised of Body and Soul. The bible uses "soul" and "spirit" **interchangeably**.
  - Trichotomy: man is comprised of Body, Soul, and Spirit. The Spirit most directly relates to God. The soul includes a human's **intellect, emotions, and will**. Though all people have a soul that can serve God or sin, a person's spirit only comes alive at salvation.
    - **Romans 8:10**
  - Monism: A third, and rarely held view, is that the body and soul are so **united**, the soul cannot live without the body. the scriptural terms soul and spirit are just other expressions for the "person" himself, or for the person's "life."
    - **Gen. 35:18; Ps. 31:5; Luke 23:43, 46; Acts 7:59; Phil. 1:23–24; 2 Cor. 5:8; Heb. 12:23; Rev. 6:9; 20:4**

### Dichotomy

- Scripture Uses "Soul" and "Spirit" **Interchangeably**
  - **John 12:27; 13:21; Luke 1:46-47; 1 Pet. 3:19; Rev. 6:9**

- At **Death**, Scripture Says Either That the “Soul” Departs or the “Spirit” Departs
  - **Ps. 31:5; Eccl. 12:7; John 19:30; Acts 7:59**
- Man Is Said to Be **Either** “Body and Soul” or “Body and Spirit”
  - **Matt 10:28; 1 Cor. 5:5; 2 Cor 7:1**
- The “Soul” or “Spirit” Can **Sin**
  - **1 Peter 1:22; Rev. 18:14; 2 Cor 7:1; Deut 2:30**

## Trichotomy

- Scripture speaks to **three** parts of a man
  - **1 Thess 5:23; Heb. 4:12**
    - The author means to express totality: **Matt 22:37; Mark 12:30**
- Scripture speaks to different **categories** of people – those of the flesh, and those of the spirit
  - **1 Cor. 2:14-3:4**
- Paul speaks of his mind and his spirit operating **differently**
  - **1 Cor 14:14**
- Personally, there is an **awareness** of spiritual experiences
  - **1 Cor 14:14**
    - **The soul has this as well: Luke 1:46; Ps. 103:1; Mark 12:30**
    - **So does the spirit: Rom. 8:16; Acts 17:16**
- Our spirit is what makes us **different** from animals
  - **Gen 1:21; 9:4**
    - If we define our “soul” to mean the immaterial element of our nature that relates to God and lives forever, then animals do not have a soul.
  - **Ps. 103:1; Luke 1:46; Rev. 6:9**
- Our spirit is what comes alive at **regeneration**
  - **Rom 8:10**
    - Your whole person is dead in trespasses and sins before conversion, and your whole person becomes a new creation.
  - **Eph. 2:1; 2 Cor 5:17**

## Questions

Why is understanding the composition of man relevant to us?

Why is an understanding of the soul important for missions?

Why is it important that we understand the variety of Christian opinions on a topic?

Image of God (Part 4)

<b>Romans 8:10</b>	But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
<b>Genesis 35:18</b>	And as her soul was departing (for she was dying), she called his name Benoni; but his father called him Benjamin.
<b>Psalms 31:5</b>	Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
<b>Luke 23:43</b>	And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."
<b>Luke 23:46</b>	Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.
<b>Acts 7:59</b>	And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."
<b>Philippians 1:23–24</b>	<a href="#">23</a> I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <a href="#">24</a> But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.
<b>2 Corinthians 5:8</b>	Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.
<b>Hebrews 12:23</b>	and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
<b>Revelation 6:9</b>	When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.
<b>Revelation 20:4</b>	Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.
<b>John 12:27</b>	"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.
<b>John 13:21</b>	After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me."
<b>Luke 1:46–47</b>	<a href="#">46</a> And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, <a href="#">47</a> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
<b>1 Peter 3:19</b>	in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,
<b>Ecclesiastes 12:7</b>	and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.
<b>John 19:30</b>	When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
<b>Matthew 10:28</b>	And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
<b>1 Corinthians 5:5</b>	you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.
<b>2 Corinthians 7:1</b>	Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.
<b>1 Peter 1:22</b>	Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,
<b>Revelation 18:14</b>	"The fruit for which your soul longed has gone from you, and all your delicacies and your splendors are lost to you, never to be found again!"

<b>Deuteronomy 2:30</b>	But Sihon the king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him, for the Lord your God hardened his spirit and made his heart obstinate, that he might give him into your hand, as he is this day.
<b>1 Thessalonians 5:23</b>	Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
<b>Hebrews 4:12</b>	For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
<b>Matthew 22:37</b>	And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
<b>Mark 12:30</b>	And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’
<b>1 Corinthians 2:14–3:4</b>	<a href="#">14</a> The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <a href="#">15</a> The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. <a href="#">16</a> “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ. <a href="#">3:1</a> But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <a href="#">2</a> I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, <a href="#">3</a> for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? <a href="#">4</a> For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human?
<b>1 Corinthians 14:14</b>	For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful.
<b>Luke 1:46</b>	And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,
<b>Psalms 103:1</b>	Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!
<b>Romans 8:16</b>	The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
<b>Acts 17:16</b>	Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols.
<b>Genesis 1:21</b>	So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
<b>Genesis 9:4</b>	But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.
<b>Ephesians 2:1</b>	And you were dead in the trespasses and sins
<b>2 Corinthians 5:17</b>	Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.