

Soul and Spirit

Introduction:

The purpose of this study is to determine from the word of God just what happens when one dies. Is there an immortal soul or spirit that has life apart from the body? In other words, are the dead really dead or are they alive? What is death if not the opposite of life? Is there any consciousness after death? If so, how can one think if his brain is in the grave returning to dust? How can one speak or praise God without a mouth? Do we have two brains or two mouths? Does the Bible record anyone going to heaven without their body? Where did this concept of an immortal soul or spirit that can think, talk, feel pain without a body come from? What's the resurrection all about? If before the resurrection I have a new body that can walk, talk, fly, play golden harps, etc., why would I need another body? Is the reward for every man either eternal life or eternal life? When do we receive our reward, at death or at the resurrection about which the Bible speaks so often?

Let's see what the scriptures have to say about immortality and mortality.

What do these terms mortal and immortal mean?

Mortal = Subject to death; destined to die.

Immortal = Having no principle of alteration or corruption; **exempt from death; having life or being that shall never end**; never ending; everlasting; continual.

Only God has immortality.

1Timothy 1:17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1Timothy 6:16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Man is mortal.

Job 4:17 Shall mortal man be more just than God? shall a man be more pure than his maker?

Romans 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

2Corinthians 4:11 For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

The righteous seek for immortality.

If we seek for immortality, it is because we don't already have it.

Romans 2:7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

We who are mortal, will put on immortality.

It is when we put on immortality that there will be no more death.

1Corinthians 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54) So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

In this mortal body we suffer and groan till the redemption of our bodies when mortality will be swallowed up of life.

Romans 8:23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

2Corinthians 5:4 For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

Only through Christ, do we have the promise of immortality.

2Timothy 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

Through Christ's resurrection, we have hope that should we die, we too will be resurrected with an immortal body.

1Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that He rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13) But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: 14) And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. 15) Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ: whom He raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. 16) For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: 17) And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. 18) Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. 19) If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

It's only at the resurrection, that man puts on immortality.

1Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring [lead] with Him. 15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not ~~prevent~~ [precede] them which are asleep. 16) For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

1Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall

sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53) For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54) So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Both body and soul can be destroyed in hell:

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

The lesson in this passage is not a study on the difference between the soul and body, but Christ is reassuring those that would be persecuted that they need not fear for their eternal life. Man may be able to destroy their mortal body but not their soul, their identity, their character. Luke makes this point very clear.

Luke 12:4, 5 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear Him, which after He hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear Him.

God alone knows the condition of man's spirit, his soul, that which makes him unique from any other person. It is this that determines one's destiny for eternal life or for hell.

Christ's soul went to hell.

Acts 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24) Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that He should be holden of it. 25) For David speaketh concerning Him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for He is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: 26) Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope. 27) Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Acts 2:31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in hell, neither His flesh did see corruption.

soul: 5315, nephesh; properly, a breathing creature, vitality, breath

hell: 7585, sheh-ole'; Hades or the world of the dead (as if a subterranean retreat), including its accessories and inmates:-- grave, hell, pit.

corruption: 7845, a pit (especially as a trap); figuratively, destruction:-- corruption, destruction, ditch, grave, pit.

From this scripture regarding Christ, we can learn several things:

1. hell in this passage is the grave
2. the soul (body, flesh) of Christ was put there
3. soul could only be speaking of the body for that is the only thing that could see corruption
4. it was His soul or body that was resurrected

Christ referred to His soul dying.

Matthew 26:38 Then saith He unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

Isaiah also speaks of Christ's soul dying.

Isaiah 53:12 Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

We have more to learn from this passage in Acts chapter 2.

Act 2:29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

Acts 2:34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35) Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

Acts 13:36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

David is not now awake but sleeps in the grave awaiting the resurrection when Christ returns for His saints. David spoke of this event and the hope he had.

Psalms 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Not only did David have this hope, but Job did as well.

Job 14:12 So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep. 13) O that thou wouldest hide me in the grave, that thou wouldest keep me secret, until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldest appoint me a set time, and remember me! 14) If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. 15) Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.

Job 19:26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

Note: Job did not expect to see God until his change would come and he would see him "in his flesh."

If anyone went to heaven when they died, certainly it would be one of whom the Lord spoke so highly.

Job 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

John speaks of this marvellous change that we shall experience if faithful.

1John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

One would think that should there truly be life in any form after death, that there certainly would be praise to God.

Psalms 88:10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah.

Psalms 115:17 The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence.

Isaiah 38:18 For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. 19) The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

A Little History

So we see that God is the only one that naturally has immortality meaning He is eternal, everlasting, not subject to death. How is it that this notion that man also has natural immortality become so popular and widespread? The teaching that the dead are alive has not only divided the Christian world but has been embraced among all pagan religions.

Satan: With the earliest history of man, Satan began his efforts to deceive our race. The declaration of the serpent to Eve in Eden—"ye shall not surely die" was the first sermon preached on the immortality of the soul. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4, 20) is made to mean: "the soul that sinneth, it shall not surely die but live eternally in heaven or in hell."

The Egyptians: were the first to assert the doctrine that the soul of man is immortal. (Herodotus, Greek Historian, 484-425 B.C.) (**Note that the scriptures do not once connect the words "soul or spirit" with the word "immortal."**)

Plato: (427-347B.C.) taught that the soul is divine, uncreated, immortal and passes through many incarnations.

Plato, Pythagoras, and many Greek Philosophers: studied in Egyptian colleges where they mastered mystical arts, and absorbed occult beliefs.

Philo: (20 B.C. –A.D 47) a mystic Jew, tried to fuse Platonic and Egyptian Philosophy with Judaic teachings. He taught that the soul is immortal, and the lost suffer eternal torment.

Athenagoras: (A.D 127-190) Platonic philosopher and quasi-christian, was the first in Christendom to use the term immortal soul. He based this view not on scripture, but Greek philosophy.

Tertullian: (A.D. 160-240) Bishop of Carthage, advanced the idea of the soul's natural immortality, and of ceaseless torment for the lost. He wrote, "The wicked are consigned to the punishment of everlasting fire, that fire which, from its very nature indeed, directly ministers to their corruptibility... it does not consume what it scorches, but while it burns it repairs."

Christians: did not adopt "soul immortality" until certain North African church fathers, influenced by Plato, espoused it about A.D. 200. A century later, they split into two antagonistic schools, divided over eternal torment and universal restoration. Based on the heathen notions of immortality, the Roman Church adopted the myth of purgatory. (Note that the word purgatory never once shows up in the scriptures.)

The hope of our enjoying immortality should not rest with the unscriptural concept held by ancient pagan philosophers, but on the Word of God.

Hebrew and Greek Definitions of the Word, Soul

Let's compare how Strong's Hebrew and Greek definitions of the words, soul and spirit have changed over the years. Could it be that the preconceived ideas of the translators have found their way into the transition of definitions?

The old Strong's definition of "Soul" in the Old Testament

Soul: Hebrew 5315 *nephesh* from 5314 *breath*; by extension: *life, life force, soul*, an immaterial part of a person, the *seat of emotion and desire*; a *creature* or person as a whole: self, body, even corpse;

—translated soul 416x, life 100x, souls 58x, lives 18x, persons 13x, person 12x, heart 12x, mind 11x, creature 9x, . . .

Hebrew 5314 **naphash**; a primitive root; to **breathe**; passive, to be **breathed** upon, i.e. (figuratively) **refreshed** (as if by a current of air);—(be) refresh selves (-ed)

The new Strong's definition of "Soul" in the Old Testament

Soul: Hebrew 5315. nephesh, neh'-fesh; from 5314; properly, a **breathing creature**, i.e. **animal** of (abstractly) **vitality**; used very widely in a literal, accommodated or figurative sense (**bodily** or **mental**):—any, appetite, beast, body, breath, creature, x dead(-ly), desire, x (dis-)contented, x fish, ghost, + greedy, he, heart(-y), (hath, x jeopardy of) life (x in jeopardy), lust, man, me, mind, mortally, one, own, person, pleasure, (her-, him-, my-, thy-)self, them (your)-selves, + slay, soul, + tablet, they, thing, (x she) will, x would have it.

Hebrew 5314 **naphash**; a primitive root; to **breathe**; passive, to be **breathed** upon, i.e. (figuratively) **refreshed** (as if by a current of air);—(be) refresh selves (-ed)

The old Strong's definition of "Soul" in the New Testament

Soul: Greek 5590 **psuche** from 5594; **breath**, i.e. **life, soul, heart, mind**: a **person**; the immaterial (and eternal) part of inner person, often meaning the animate self:—soul 39x, life 35x, souls 19x, lives 5x, minds 2x . . .

Greek 5594 **psucho**; a primary verb; to **breathe** (*voluntarily* but *gently*; thus differing on the one hand from 4154 which denotes properly a *forcible* respiration; and on the other from the base of 109, which refers properly to an inanimate **breeze**) i.e. (by implication of reduction of temperature by evaporation) to *chill* (figuratively);— wax colds

The new Strong's definition of "Soul" in the New Testament

Soul: Greek 5590. **psuche**, psoo-khay'; from 5594; **breath**, i.e. (by implication) **spirit**, abstractly or concretely (the animal sentient principle only; thus distinguished on the one hand from 4151, which is the rational and **immortal soul**; and on the other from 2222, which is mere vitality, even of plants: these terms thus exactly correspond respectively to the Hebrew H5315, H7307 and H2416):— heart (+ -ily), life, mind, soul, + us, + you.

5594. psucho, psoo'-kho; a primary verb; to **breathe** (*voluntarily* but *gently*, thus differing on the one hand from 4154, which denotes properly a forcible respiration; and on the other from the base of 109, which refers properly to an inanimate breeze), i.e. (by implication, of reduction of temperature by evaporation) to *chill* (figuratively):— wax cold.

Hebrew and Greek Definitions of the Word, Spirit

The old Strong's definition of "Spirit" in the Old Testament

Soul: Hebrew 7307 **ruwach** from 7306: **wind**; by resemblance **breath, spirit, mind, heart**, as the immaterial part of a person that can respond to God:—spirit 227x, wind 81x, breath 27x, winds 11x, mind 5x, . . .

Spirit: Hebrew 7306 **ruwach**; a primitive root; properly to **blow**, i.e. **breathe**, only (literally) to *smell* or (by implication *perceive* (figuratively to *anticipate, enjoy*):— accept, smell, x touch, make of quick understanding.

The new Strong's definition of "spirit" in the Old Testament

Spirit: Hebrew 7307. **ruwach**, roo'-akh; from 7306; wind; by resemblance breath, i.e. a sensible (or even violent) exhalation; figuratively, life, anger, unsubstantiality; by extension, a region of the sky; by resemblance spirit, but only of a rational being (including its expression and functions):—air, anger, blast, breath, x cool, courage, mind, x quarter, x side, spirit((-ual)), tempest, x vain, ((whirl-))wind(-y).

7306. **ruwach**, roo'-akh; a primitive root; properly, **to blow**, i.e. **breathe**; only (literally) to smell or (by implication, perceive (figuratively, to anticipate, enjoy):—accept, smell, x touch, make of quick understanding.

The old Strong's definition of "Spirit" in the New Testament

Greek **4151**; **pneuma**, from **4154**; a **current** of air, i.e. **breath**, by extension, **spirit, heart, mind**, the immaterial part of a person that can respond to God:—spirit 257x, ghost 92x, spirits 32x, life 1x . . .

Greek **4154**; **pneo**; a primitive word; to **breathe** hard, i.e. **breeze**;—blow. Compare **5594**, (see above).

The new Strong's definition of "Spirit" in the New Testament

Spirit Greek **4151**. **pneuma**, pnyoo'-mah; from **4154**; a **current of air**, i.e. **breath (blast)** or a **breeze**; by analogy or figuratively, a **spirit**, i.e. (**human**) the **rational soul**, (by implication) **vital principle, mental disposition**, etc., or (superhuman) an **angel, demon**, or (divine) **God**, Compare **5590**.

4154. **πνέω** pneo, pneh'-o; a primary word; to **breathe hard**, i.e. **breeze**: — blow. Compare **5594**., the **Holy Spirit**: — ghost, life, spirit(-ual, -ually), mind.

Soul: Greek **5590**. **psuche**, psoo-khay'; from **5594**; **breath**, i.e. (by implication) **spirit**, abstractly or concretely (the animal sentient principle only; thus distinguished on the one hand from **4151**, which is the rational and **immortal soul**; and on the other from **2222**, which is mere vitality, even of plants: these terms thus exactly correspond respectively to the Hebrew **H5315**, **H7307** and **H2416**): — heart (+ -ily), life, mind, soul, + us, + you.

How The Bible Uses The Term, Soul

How is soul used in the Bible?

All usages of "**soul**" whether in Hebrew or Greek, relate to a physical being, its conditions or qualities especially individuality, or personality.

Soul = life:

The first Bible verse where we we find the word **soul** is in the creation of man.

Genesis 2:7 God formed Adam of the dust and breathed into him the breath of life and man became a living **soul**.

In other words, the body (dust)+ the breath = a soul, a living, breathing creature.

Genesis 9:4 But flesh with the life [**soul**] thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat. 5) And surely your blood of your lives [**soul**] will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life [**soul**] of man.

Deuteronomy 12:23 Only be sure that thou eat not the blood: for the blood is the life [**soul**]; and thou mayest not eat the life [**soul**] with the flesh.

Proverbs 12:10 A righteous man regardeth the life [**soul**] of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

The Bible tells us that the life is in the blood. It uses life and blood interchangeably.

Leviticus 17:11 For the life [soul] of the flesh is in the blood:

In other words, For the **soul** of the flesh is in the blood.

Leviticus 17:14 For it [the blood] is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof:

In other words, For the blood is the **soul** of all flesh; the blood of it is for the **soul** thereof:

Soul = people, persons or self:

Genesis 14:21 And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons [souls], and take the goods to thyself.

Exodus 12:16 And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man [soul] must eat, that only may be done of you.

Numbers 23:10 Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me [soul] die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his!

Leviticus 11:43 Ye shall not make yourselves [souls] abominable with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make yourselves [souls] unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby.

Isaiah 47:14 Behold, they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves [souls] from the power of the flame: there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.

Acts 27:37 And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Genesis 12:13 Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my **soul** shall live because of thee.

Soul = creature:

Genesis 1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature [soul] after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

Soul = beast:

Leviticus 24:18 And he that killeth [soul] a beast shall make it good; beast [soul] for beast [soul].

Soul = fish:

Isaiah 19:10 And they shall be broken in the purposes thereof, all that make sluices and ponds for fish [soul].

Soul = mind:

Genesis 23:8 And he communed with them, saying, If it be your mind [soul] that I should bury my dead out of my sight; hear me, and intreat for me to Ephron the son of Zohar,

1Chronicles 28:9 And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind [soul]: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek Him, He will be found of thee; but if thou forsake Him, He will cast thee off for ever.

Acts 14:2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds [soul], evil affected against the brethren.

Philippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind [soul] striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Soul = desire:

Ecclesiastes 6:9 Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the desire [soul]: this is also vanity and vexation of spirit.

Soul = lust:

Exodus 15:9 The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust [soul] shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

Psalms 78:18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust [soul].

Soul = heart:

Exodus 23:9 Also thou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart [soul] of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinketh in his heart [soul], so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

Soul = pleasure:

Deuteronomy 23:24 When thou comest into thy neighbour's vineyard, then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure [soul]; but thou shalt not put any in thy vessel.

Jeremiah 34:16 But ye turned and polluted my name, and caused every man his servant, and every man his handmaid, whom ye had set at liberty at their pleasure [soul], to return, and brought them into subjection, to be unto you for servants and for handmaids.

Soul = appetite:

Proverbs 23:2 And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite [soul].

Soul = heart:

Ephesians 6:6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart [soul];

Soul can be sorrowful:

Mark 14:34 And saith unto them, My **soul** is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.

Luke 2:35 (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own **soul** also) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

A soul can die:

Matthew 26:38 Then saith He unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

Isaiah 53:12 Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Leviticus 23:30 And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people.

Ezekiel 18:4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

Ezekiel 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Ezekiel 18:27 Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.

Psalms 56:13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?

Psalms 116:8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

Psalms 78:50 He made a way to His anger; He spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;

Proverbs 6:32 But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

Leviticus 7:27 Whatsoever soul it be that eateth any manner of blood, even that soul shall be cut off [destroyed or consumed] from his people.

Genesis 35:18 And it came to pass, as her soul [**life**] was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin.

Soul = dead corpse:

Numbers 5:2 Command the children of Israel, that they put out of the camp every leper, and every one that hath an issue, and whosoever is defiled by the dead [soul]:

Leviticus 19:28 Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead [soul], nor print any marks upon you: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 21:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto the priests the sons of Aaron, and say unto them, There shall none be defiled for the dead [soul] [among his people:

Leviticus 21:11 Neither shall he go in to any dead body [soul], nor defile himself for his father, or for his mother;

Numbers 6:6 All the days that he separateth himself unto the LORD he shall come at no dead body [soul].

Soul in Hell, In the Grave

Soul in Hell (the grave)

Psalms 16:10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Psalms 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.

Psalms 89:48 What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.

How The Bible Uses The Term, Spirit

We will find that **spirit** and **breath** are used interchangeably, in fact, spirit translates breath.

Psalms 104:30 Thou sendest forth thy spirit, [wind, breath] they are created.

Job 27:3 All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit [breath] of God is in my nostrils.

Genesis 7:22 All in whose nostrils was the breath [spirit] of life,

At death, just the opposite happens.

Psalms 146:4 His breath [spirit] goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

body (dust) – breath = no soul, no life

Psalms 104:29 Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath [spirit], they die, and return to their dust.

When the spirit (breath) leaves man, he returns to dust.

Job 34:14, 15 If He set His heart upon man, if He gather unto Himself His spirit and His breath; All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.

life - spirit (breath) = dust

Spirit = Breath

Job 27:3 All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;

Psalms 104:30 Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.

Ecclesiastes 3:21 Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?

Ecclesiastes 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Psalms 146:4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Ecclesiastes 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. 6) Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun. Luke 8:55 And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

Matthew 27:50 Jesus, when He had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

Luke 23:46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, He gave up the ghost [G1606 to expire].

Acts 7:59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

James 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

In resurrection we see that the breath returns and brings life again.

1 Kings 17:21 And he [Elijah] stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul [**breath**] come into him again. 22) And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul [**breath**] of the child came into him again, and he revived.

Spirit = Life:

Revelation 13:15 And he had power to give life [**spirit**] unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

Spirit = mind:

Spirit is used 464 times in the Scriptures, and by far the greatest usage is describing the thoughts and feelings which comprise character.

Ephesians 4:23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Philippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Luke 9:55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

Job 20:3 I have heard the check of my reproach, and the spirit of my understanding causeth me to answer.

Spirit = courage:

Joshua 2:11 And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage [spirit] in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.

Spirit can be sorrowful:

1 Samuel 1:15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

Spirit = anger:

Judges 8:3 God hath delivered into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb: and what was I able to do in comparison of you? Then their anger [spirit] was abated toward him, when he had said that.

Spirit can be meek:

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

1 Corinthians 4:21 What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?

Spirit of fear:

Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Spirit of jealousy:

Numbers 5:14 And the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be defiled: or if the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be not defiled:

Paul speaks of the three dimensions of man.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we consider this text let us note the following:

1. The whole being (body, soul and spirit) is sanctified “wholly,” not individually.
2. God wants to sanctify us physically, mentally and spiritually.
3. The text does not say any of the three are immortal, or that any of them go directly to heaven at death.
4. On the contrary it states that they may be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord.
5. Does this passage in any way suggest that they are able to exist apart from one another?

Familiar Spirits

Should we seek God or familiar spirits?

Isaiah 8:19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

Leviticus 19:31 Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God.

The wicked seek familiar spirits.

Isaiah 19:3 And the spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof; and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to the wizards.

Death is the consequence of seeking familiar spirits.

Leviticus 20:27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

Leviticus 20:6 And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

Leviticus 20:27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

Seeking familiar spirits is an abomination to the Lord.

Deuteronomy 18:9 When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. 10) There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, 11) Or a charmer,

or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. 12) For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

Saul knew of the abomination of seeking familiar spirits, he therefore put them away.

1Samuel 28:3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land.

Saul disobeyed the Lord.

1Samuel 15:10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying, 11) It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king; for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

Saul grieved away God's Spirit.

1Samuel 16:14 But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

Saul departed from the Lord and sought a woman who would bring up Samuel.

1Samuel 28:7 Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor. 8) And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee. 9) And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

Saul died for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it.

1Chronicles 10:13 So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it;

King Manasseh provoked the Lord by dealing with familiar spirits.

2Kings 21:1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah. ... 6) And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.

King Josiah obeyed the words of the law and put away the workers with familiar spirits.

2Kings 23:24 Moreover the workers with familiar spirits, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in

Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD.

Do the dead come back as familiar spirits? Notice in these following verses that it was "*supposed*" that it was a spirit.

Mark 6:49 But when they saw Him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

Luke 24:37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

Summary Thoughts:

Physically we have a brain. The brain is home for the mind which produces the spirit. The combination of these two, the physical brain and the spirit of the mind, make up the soul, the whole person.

Our dead relatives are dear to us. We cherish the thought that they might be now enjoying the pleasures of eternal life. We would prefer that we ourselves also need not miss a moment of life as we pass into death. But the Scriptures are clear on this subject, the dead are really dead and not alive. There will be a resurrection and the dead shall live again. Some will be resurrected and live forever, and some will be resurrected to die again, and that death will be eternal.

We must not believe Satan who lied to Eve, saying, "ye shall not surely die," when God plainly stated, "ye shall surely die." Will you commit an abomination by conversing with a familiar spirit, a demon personating possibly one of your family members who have died, and risk being deceived and suffer the consequence of eternal death?

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