“KNOW THYSELF”

WHAT IS THE REAL YOU?

We’re in Revelation 20:4. The chapter before us is one of the key chapters in the book of Revelation. “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands: and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.” That is a very long verse to memorize. In fact, it is a whole paragraph.

Before we can even analyze this verse, we must start with one thing. “The souls of them that were beheaded.” We have to begin with the doctrine of the soul. What does the Bible have to say about the soul? We will take it up under eight points.

WHAT IS THE SOUL?
WHO IS THE SOUL?
WHERE IS THE SOUL?

We have before us a passage that discusses the human soul. Since you possess a human soul, you really ought to know what it is all about.

Scholarship is divided as to whether it was Socrates or Plato who said (Plato really wrote what Socrates said), but Socrates said (or Plato) “Know thyself.” The average believer, if he doesn’t know about the soul, he doesn’t know even himself. You have to know yourself in principle before you are aware of what you are doing in practice. So, borrowing a line from Socrates, we now have “KNOW THYSELF,” the doctrine of the human soul. This is what you REALLY are.

Point One: IN HOMO SAPIENS THE REAL PERSON IS THE SOUL. The REAL YOU is your soul. Let’s turn to Genesis 2:7 for our initial passage on this subject. “And the Lord God.” The word “Lord” is JHVH. The word “God” is ELOHIM. In other words, we have in the English transliterated JEHOVAH ELOHIM.

The word JHVH is used for the Persons in the Godhead in the singular. ELOHIM is used for essence in the Godhead, and it is plural because three separate and distinct Persons have that essence. JHVH refers to Jesus Christ, who is the Creator. Colossians 1:16 says “By Him were all things created that are in heaven, and that are in Earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by Him, and for Him.”

John 1:3 and Hebrews 1:10 also point out that Jesus Christ is the Creator. John 1:3, “All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.” Hebrews 1:10, “And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the Earth; and the heavens are the works of Thine hands.”

So, JHVH ELOHIM is Jesus Christ, and all that ELOHIM says is He has all of the characteristics of the essence of the Godhead. ELOHIM refers to essence. Jesus Christ is sovereignty, righteousness, justice, love, eternal life, omniscience, omnipresence, omnipotence, immutability and veracity.

Jesus Christ personally created the first man. Not only did He create man, but He created the principle whereby man perpetuates himself. You ARE NOT personally created by Jesus Christ. YOU ARE THE PRINCIPLE OF PERPETUATION OF MAN.

There are two ways in which mankind came into the world. The first is creation. Actually only two persons were ever created, Adam and Eve, whose name is ISHAH. ISHAH is simply the Hebrew word translated “woman.” Later on she was called Eve. But that is after regeneration. We also have the
principle of perpetuation and the rest of the human race. We are stating in point one that homo sapiens are perpetuated.

YOU ARE PERPETUATED, BUT NOT CREATED. Adam was created. The woman was created. She was created from the man. She is the rib that was taken out of the man. Therefore man always has something missing that he can only find in woman. And woman is not complete without the man. This is the original principle involved.

So we have the concept here that Adam and ISHAH were created. But there is no one alive today in the human race who has been created and there has not been anyone since the beginning. Everyone else is perpetuated.

Adam and Eve received their old sin nature by an act of negative volition. We receive our old sin nature by an act of PHYSICAL BIRTH, the first birth.

We are still on point one. You have an old sin nature and you know I have an old sin nature. We received our old sin nature at the point of physical birth. Therefore, we were born spiritually dead. Ephesians 2:1, “And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.” Romans 5:12, “Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”

But Adam was NOT created with an old sin nature. GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF SIN. GOD DOES NOT TEMPT. GOD IN NO WAY CAN BE INVOLVED IN SIN. He is perfect. He simply gave man a choice and man finally chose.

When man went on negative signals and partook of the forbidden tree, his negative volition led to his acquiring an old sin nature. So, the original man was created. Everyone else is perpetuated. This is a very important distinction because it has something to do with the concept of the human soul, as we will see in Genesis 2:7. We are working in Revelation 20:4 by studying Genesis 2:7.

“The Lord God,” is a reference to the Lord Jesus Christ. “Formed” is YATSAR, which has to do with the body. YATSAR. “Formed man,” This is the body of man. “Out of the dust of the ground.” The body is a factory, an intricate, fantastic, marvelous factory. The body is not only a factory, but it is a house. It is the house in which you live. As far as I can tell when I look at you, all of you are residing in a body. Now, you reside in this body, this tent, as long as you live. When the day comes when you die physically, you no longer live in this factory, this body, this house, this tent.

God has created a fantastic, marvelous thing called a body. So, under point one, I want you to start thinking in terms of the body and the soul SEPARATE. The body is simply the house for the soul. THE REAL YOU IS NOT THE BODY. THE REAL YOU IS THE SOUL. What you really are is the SOUL. The body is simply something in which you reside, and with which you are linked in physical life. Physical life is the soul being inside the body and the body functioning at least enough to get by.

Genesis 2:7, “The Lord God formed man out of the dust of the ground.” “Dust” here refers to chemicals. In fact, the Hebrew word for dust is actually a small particle, DAQ, and should be translated an “atom.” Actually we have man formed out of the chemicals of the soil. That is why man leaves his physical body in physical death, when the soul leaves the body. The factory all of a sudden changes. There is no such thing as destruction technically. You simply change.

The body decomposes. The decomposition is simply the chemicals turning into gas, or into dust, the chemicals in the soil. When the body is no longer used, eventually we call that 98 cents worth of chemical, before inflation.

Now, the important thing. This is why Jesus Christ said, “Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body. You be afraid of those who can both kill the body and the soul.” Only the devil can do that, by deceiving you so that you refuse to accept Christ as your personal Saviour. All right, so much then for the body.
The rest of this verse beginning with the word “and” takes up the other entity of man. **Man has a physical body, which is the least important part of man.** That will be good news to some of you. That is almost as good a news as the salvation we have IN CHRIST.

We spend a lot of time working with the body. And there is a reason for that. We try to work out and there is a good reason for that. That is so that my soul will have a stiff backbone and I will be able to sit down and study for prolonged periods of time or listen to sad stories for long periods of time. See, you have to do something to keep the factory up. **But the factory is not the important thing.** You know you can put muscle on the factory, on the body, and that is well and good, but it sustains the soul inside the body. Really, that is the whole purpose of the body.

You take people who are non-thinking and they put all of the emphasis on the body. When you put all the emphasis on the body, you have had it. **You have no capacity for love.** You have no capacity for anything. The body is the instrument of the soul, but, you take, for example, the man on Muscle Beach in California. He is all body and no brains, therefore, his body runs his brain. **If there is anything that is stupid, it is for something mechanical to run something intricate, rather than for something intricate to run something mechanical.**

Now, you see where we are headed, don’t you? Now, don’t nod your head because you still don’t have any idea where we are heading. We are still dealing with the soul, point one.

Now you should have in your notes at least this much: In homo sapien, the real person is in the soul. Genesis 2:7. We are not going to look up all these verses and give them such detailed recognition. But this one is important. Because this indicates that **when man came into existence in his original state, he was what we call TRICHOTOMOUS.** That means that he had a body. There is the mechanics. There is the house. And he, as we are about to see, also had a soul and a human spirit.

Now notice the end of this verse. “**And He breathed.**” Jesus Christ breathed. Jesus Christ had life. He breathed life. “**And breathed life into his nostrils.**” There is just one problem there. “**And breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.**” But the Hebrew says **“The breath of lives,”** plural. **“Lives is in the plural.**” He breathed into his nostrils, count them sometime, two nostrils. There is a reason for that in the make up of the body. They’re not simply to take in a larger volume of air. The reason is because, technically, **into one nostril went the soul and into the other went the human spirit.** The nostrils are what we call “a left over” from man’s perfect or innocent state.

“**And breathed into his nostrils, plural, the breath of lives,**” plural. And the life, the real you, the real Adam (actually we haven’t gotten down to us yet), but the real Adam is a soul and a spirit.

Now let’s stop again. Adam and ISHAH were created by Jesus Christ, JHVH ELOHIM of Genesis 2:7. They were created without a sin nature. When they went on negative signals, they acquired an old sin nature. You and I are perpetuated through procreation. Therefore, we are born with the old sin nature. They acquired it through negative volition. We have no volition involved in the acquiring of our old sin nature. We have an old sin nature by birth. They acquired it by an act of negative volition.

The real Adam was made up of his soul and his spirit. **When the real Adam sinned, his spirit died, and he picked up the old sin nature.** The spirit and the soul are the life of the original man. But when the original man sinned, he had just the soul and body left. He died spiritually.

**His spirit had the ability to have fellowship with God.** Jesus Christ came in the Garden every day. When Jesus Christ came in the Garden, Adam had fellowship with Jesus Christ, through his human spirit. **Jesus Christ taught him the Word, and his hu-
man spirit was the repository, the receptacle for the Word. Adam also had a human soul, and the human soul was the repository for all human phenomena. This was the area for which he had fellowship with ISAH, the woman.

When he died spiritually, he had free will and he went negative. He partook of the tree, that was man’s original sin, NEGATIVE VOLITION TO GOD’S WORD. That is all he could do. There was no other way he could sin. There was no other sin open to him. But when he went on negative signals, his spirit died and he picked up the old sin nature, which is a part of the soul, but one of many parts of the soul. This anticipates something we will be examining in a moment.

Let’s be sure we have point one. We are off to a good flying start. What does the Bible say about the real you, the soul? The doctrine of the soul. Based on Revelation 20:4, “The souls of them that are beheaded.” So Genesis 2:7 is the first point. In homo sapien, mankind, the real person is in the soul. IN THE SOUL. Don’t put in the spirit. Adam was in soul and spirit. But we simply are born with a soul. The soul does not come into the body until the point of physical birth. Although the embryo in the mother’s womb goes into a lot of activity, illustrated by the kicking of the “child,” but that is an embryo. That is mechanics in a body. There is no real person until physical birth actually takes place, at which point, into the child comes the soul.

What is this thing that comes into the child that makes the child alive? The body has action in the womb, but the child isn’t alive. The child isn’t a person. That is simply mechanics.

It’s like in the old days when we had mechanical type transmissions with a clutch. You stall and so someone came along and gave you a push. The mother’s body is giving the child’s body a push. And therefore, there is a heart beat and the kicking and a few things of this sort, but THIS IS NOT A PERSON. THERE IS NO PERSON UNTIL THE SOUL ENTERS THE BODY, and that occurs at the point of physical birth.

Now there are all sorts of principles that can be taken from this. This helps to clarify some problems in the legalized abortion area and things of this sort. Also, some problems of premature birth, and whether it is a real person or not. The answer is NO. Not until actual physical birth takes place is the person real. The thing that makes the person real is the soul. You see, there is no problem here.

Jesus Christ just took the thing out of the dust and formed these chemicals. He built the house first. The body came first, if you remember. Here was Adam standing there for a moment, but he wasn’t a person. Just as a child comes from the womb, but until the child screams to let you know the soul is there, until the child is whacked and yells, it isn’t a child. It isn’t a member of the human race.

Adam’s body came first says Genesis 2:7. “He formed man of the dust of the ground.” The body was formed from the chemicals of the ground. Then God put into the body, the body was fully developed right from the start, because Christ put through the nostrils the breath of lives. Through the aperture of the nose went, one: the soul and two: the spirit. That happened simultaneously and that is why you have two nostrils in the nose.

Maybe you wondered about that. You could have easily had one. A little messy. We would have to invent a new kind of Kleenex. We all have two nostrils basically and this is left over to remind us of something of Genesis 2:7.

Which came first in the composition of man? His body came first. God built the house first. And He then puts man in the house. God doesn’t say, “now look Adam. Here is your soul. Now build a house around you.” Not at all. The house was built first. The body came first. And then the soul and
the spirit. He lost his human spirit when he sinned.

Now I know with some of you this will not gel. The only way it will gel is when you concentrate. The key one is the second point, THE ESSENCE OF THE SOUL.

What is this thing called the soul? We will make a square because all believers are called “squares.” Inside of this square is the soul. What does it have? Everything that I am going to mention is actually in the soul of man today. It has six things. When Adam came from God, man’s soul had five things. Today we have six and as you have already anticipated, the number six is the old sin nature. Let’s begin the essence of the soul.

1. THE SOUL HAS CONSCIOUSNESS, or life. The real you is your soul. You are occupying a body. But the real you is the soul in side of you.

The general location of the soul is up in the brain, the frontal lobe area. Apparently the whole soul resides in the cranium area. You know that is probably as good a place as one could put the soul. For example, to put the soul in the feet, well there is not much protection there. And you may notice that in the structure of man, he generally has a thick skull, some thicker than others. But it is a nice place to put the soul.

All right, first of all, the soul has consciousness or life. That is found in 1 Kings 17:21, “And he 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 come into him again.” Acts 20:10, “And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.” Genesis 2:7.

Genesis 35:18, “And it came to pass, as her soul was in departing, (for she died) that she called his name Benoni: but his father called him Benjamin.” Matthew 10:39, “He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for My sake shall find it.” John 5:39, 40, “Search the Scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me. And ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life.”

I want to emphasize again and again THE REAL YOU IS THE SOUL, and the soul is up in the mind. We will see it in a minute. The mind is one of the factors of the soul. The real you is the soul.

Christianity, Stage Two, is the only life designed to be lived in the soul. ALL RELIGIONS ARE DESIGNED TO BE LIVED IN THE BODY. All religions and forms of legalism emphasize some FORM OF MORALITY in which the BODY is involved. See, there are certain “body-type sins,” overt sins and legalism, superficiality, religionism. Everything that is really off base always emphasizes what the body can do, or not do. The posture of the body, the genuflect, the sort of the body going into some form of “worshipful attitude,” some ritualistic ritual, sins pertaining to the body, so-called, therefore abstaining from certain things, activities of the body, chasing, etc.

All religions emphasize these things. So, naturally when you get some believers who are ignorant of the Word of God, they emphasize them, too. Most believers think that if they are moral, they are living a good Christian life. MOST MORAL CHRISTIANS ARE NOT LIVING A GOOD CHRISTIAN LIFE.

This is NOT knocking morality. Morality is the basis for keeping the Divine Institu-
tions going, and it is for unbelievers as well as believers. But Christianity emphasizes what you think. THINK!!! We will see in a moment a part of the soul is the mind. So, the first part of the soul is simply consciousness, or life.

You now have the verses, the real you. You see, the real you will ALWAYS live, whether in the body or out of the body. Now, we will take Christians. Remember the real you is in the soul, life or consciousness. This is just one facet of the soul.

So, if you are living in your body, in what phase of God's plan are you? Answer: Stage Two. Well, suppose you are living out of the body. You are in Stage Three, eternity. Suppose you are living in a resurrection body. What phase? Three. Now you should see the point. The real you is the soul, in the body, out of the body, or in a resurrection body. The soul will always live.

I wonder what the soul thinks when it leaves the body. Do you know? I do. What does the soul think in a resurrection body? There is no such thing as soul sleep. There is no such thing as the death of the soul.

This is true also of the unbeliever. If the unbeliever is living in his human body, the body that he has now, he is in time. But if he is out of his body, he is dead physically and his soul resides in Hades. When he gets his body back in the resurrection, the second resurrection, he is in the Lake of Fire. But the soul will NEVER die. The soul is the real you. The soul has life. Your life, your consciousness. The soul.

This means that whether you are in the body or out, your soul can still have perceptive ability. Some people wonder what will we do after we die? Before we get a resurrection body? You still have perceptive ability. You can still see the Lord. You can still see others. You can recognize them in or out of the body.

All right, number two in the essence of the soul. This is all point two. THE SOUL HAS MENTALITY, OR THINKING. You will notice that I am using two words each time. There is a reason for that, mentality or thinking. Because all people with mentality don't think. That is the reason. Some people have mentality. Some have mentality AND think. The Word of God puts the whole package together.

So, the soul does the thinking. The soul has perceptive ability. The soul is the basis for every viewpoint you hold apart from the Word of God.

Now you can begin to see something. When you are born into the world you are born with a human soul and immediately you have consciousness, but your consciousness is limited. You have life, but obviously your life is limited. How much do you remember when you were a baby? How much does any one remember? Who remembers being in the cradle or having a bottle shoved at you? Or having someone bill and coo over you? Well, you don't remember these things. Every now and then someone does, but they are the same kind of people who have visions and the Holy Ghost talks to them on the side, so we discount them.

The second part of the essence is logical for this reason. In the essence of the soul you start out with mentality and your mentality has to develop. Now, it doesn't develop like a muscle, and get bigger and have definition. It does develop in one sense, is does have definition in that it has categories. The mind, through academics, through communication of all sorts of things, eventually develops.

But a baby's mind cannot be compared with an adult mind. This is obvious, too. So the soul, which is your life, and your consciousness, and your reality, the soul develops, just as the body develops. The soul and the body both have a development stage. Mentality or thinking. Luke 12:19, "And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." Acts 15:24, "Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the
Law: to whom we gave no such command-
ment.”

Now do you understand what we mean by consciousness or life, and do you under-
stand what we mean by mentality or think-
ing? This is all in one package. This is all a part of the soul. This is the essence of the soul. It is all in the soul.

The third thing found in the soul is WILL OR VOLITION. Free will... volition. It is in the soul. Acts 3:23, “And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.” This is a classical illustration of this. Your free will operates within the realm of the soul from the time of birth till the time of the new birth. When you are born again, you get a human spirit. But, remember, this is the soul we’re talking about now.

The human spirit is simply a reposi-
tory for the Word. It operates off of all the things in the soul. Your consciousness is in the soul. You become aware of the Word and God through the human spirit. Your mentality and your thinking are in your soul. You simply have content for mentality and thinking. You only have one volition. You only have one free will.

When you fill up this repository, the hu-
man spirit with the Word, the Holy Spirit teaches the human spirit. “The Spirit beareth witness with our spirit.” When the Holy Spirit puts the Word into the human spirit, this is when you are listening to the teaching of the Word. Then you have something on which to use your free will beside what you have in the soul. You see, the thinking in the soul is human viewpoint. But the Word of God is Divine Viewpoint. The free will, the voli-
tion, is in the soul. Acts 3:23.

Now, the fourth characteristic of the soul: EMOTION. Emotion is the appreciator of the soul. Now, you either like or don’t like every-
thing that goes into the mind. It stimulates you, or it makes you sick. When you see something, or touch something, or taste something, or hear something that you like, it is the emotion that pours out the oil. It is like the system of a plane on the take off that gives you that extra thrust for the take off with a heavy load. They simply fire jado. And jado simply puts water into the system, etc., and zoom, up you go. The emotions are simply the appreciator. That is the jado system on the take off.

You see, when you appreciate some-
thing, then you are stimulated. There is where you get the overflow into the body. Emotion is actually something that starts in the mind. You appreciate some thing in the realm of the soul and it overflows into the body. A man sees a beautiful woman. So up in his mind, his mentally photographs a beautiful woman, click. Now, that is in the mind. So he emotes. He appreci-
ates, and it overflows into the body. He is stimulated. He makes noises like a wolf, etc.. Now do you get the principle, the mechanics here? The emotion is in the soul. The emo-
tion is a part of the soul.

Now let’s illustrate another way for a mo-
ment. God’s essence. God is righteousness. God is love. God is immutability. You under-
stand that these are characteristics of God and they are all resident in God. They may not all be manifested at the same time, but they are all there. That is the essence of God.

Okay, now back to our subject. We are talking about the essence of the soul. Every-
thing we are describing is in the soul. They are all in the soul. We are making progress. The human spirit is not in the soul. It is outside of the soul. The human spirit is activated the moment you are born again. The human spirit becomes your con-
sciousness of God, your fellowship with God, at the point of regeneration. But these other things are all in the soul.

So emotion is soulish. When you accept Christ as your personal Saviour, you have the activation of the human spirit. You realize that you are eternally saved. This information is communicated into the soul. You may have emotion and you may not. BUT YOUR EMO-
TION HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE
SPIRITUAL REALITY OF YOUR SALVATION. It is simply an appreciator in the new realm.

You learn something you didn’t know about and it stimulates you. Here is some field in which you knew nothing of it. You were totally in ignorance. And now you become an expert in it and it is stimulating. So it is the fact that you didn’t know anything about God, until you accepted Christ as your Saviour and now you know something about Him, and it is related to yourself. So you may have an emotional reaction at the point of salvation. The emotional reaction doesn’t mean a thing. It doesn’t save you. It doesn’t add anything. It is not a spiritual activity. It is simply an accompanying human activity in which the body gets into the picture.

THIS ALSO GOES FOR ANYTHING IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE. Every time you see a Christian get emotional about something, it doesn’t mean they are spiritual, it doesn’t mean they are having a spiritual experience. The tongues crowd are completely and totally off base, as well as being apostate.

We all emote. There are even some hymns we get emotional about. Does that mean that we are having a great spiritual experience? No. It could, but, the emotion simply is soulish reaction to spiritual phenomena.

Some Biblical passages on emotions in the soul are as follows: Luke 12:19, “And I will say to my soul, Soul thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.” John 12:27, “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.” 2 Peter 2:8, “For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds.”

Number five: The CONSCIENCE OR NORMS AND STANDARDS. “Conscience” is simply a Latin word for a norm or standard. All members of the human race, who have been brought up in any type of organized society, have some sort of a ruler. Sometimes it is a slide rule, but it is there. They have a norm or standard in the mind, and that is their conscience. It is strictly soulish. Now, later on, the whole norm or standard is changed by the human spirit. But, here we have conscience or norm.

Acts 24:16, “And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.” Romans 2:15, “Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another.” Romans 9:1, 2, “I say the Truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit. That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart.”

This is what Adam had in his soul. But when Adam sinned, something else was added to the soul. See, Adam went on negative signals and that is point three. He took of the forbidden tree. When he did, he acquired an old sin nature. Notice I said Adam ACQUIRED it. We are born with it. So, not only do you have all the essence of the soul, but you also have essence within essence. Because, as we have studied many times, the old sin nature has essence.

The old sin nature is in the soul. That is why sometimes the old sin nature is called the heart. For heart is simply a synonym for the soul with the emphasis on category two, the thinking part of the soul. The mentality of the soul is the heart. By the way, the heart is NEVER the emotion. The heart in the Bible is always the mentality of the soul, or the old sin nature.

In Scripture, Jeremiah 17:9, we have the word “heart” used for the old sin nature. “The heart is desperately wicked.” Psalm 58:2-5, “Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the Earth. The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies. Their poison is like the poison of a serpent: they are like the deaf adder that stop-
Matthew 15:19, “For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.”

Mark 7:21-23, “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.” This is where Christ said, “Out of the heart comes evil sermizings,” etc. and then He lists some sins, the old sin nature.

Now, notice Adam was created with five characteristics in his soul. But by going on negative signals, which is volition, point three, he acquired an old sin nature. We are born with an old sin nature. So, we are born into the world. We have consciousness or life, mentality or thinking, will and/or volition, emotion or the appreciator, the norm or the conscience, and finally the old sin nature. Now that is the essence of the soul. That is point two, and just think we only have six points to go.

Now, obviously this is summarizing. We can take each one of these Scriptures and analyze them. Sometimes they are a little different in the Greek. When Jesus Christ was born, the virgin birth, He was born WITHOUT AN OLD SIN NATURE. His compassion was based on the fact that in His humanity He did not have an old sin nature.

The old sin nature SHORT-CIRCUITS compassion. Compassion is not an emotion. It is the thought pattern of GRACE. Jesus Christ had compassion because He was God in His Deity, which is simply an extension of His love. In His humanity He had compassion, because He was minus the old sin nature. He was minus any mental attitude sins and any other kind of sins, and therefore He had the capacity for love. Compassion is simply an expression of the capacity to love.

So, in the study of the soul, one of the things we learn is that there are conditions under which abortion would be perfectly legitimate. Yes. See, it is religion that has knocked out legalized abortion. Religion is always a curse.

Now, when it says “absent from the body and face to face with the Lord” the soul and the spirit go to be with the Lord. They are linked together. But the spirit is the receptacle for the Word, for Divine Viewpoint. We still have the old sin nature as long as we live on this Earth.

Now, in stage three, we have ultimate sanctification as a doctrine. This covers a lot of things. Receiving a resurrection body, the removal of the old sin nature, and the destroying of human good. Under these conditions, then, the soul of the believer is identical to the soul of the resurrected humanity of Christ. Therefore, in eternity it reaches a constant maximum state in which it is perpetuated forever. The volition becomes operative immediately because the first desire that a baby has is an expression of volition, food. But the baby doesn't have the mentality to say, “I want food,” so it opens its mouth and cries, yaps. This is why we have an analogy to spiritual babies. They don't know enough of the Word to know what they want. So they sing “Do Lord.”

Volition, in stage three, is exactly the same as volition in the elect angels. It is static. It is locked in, positive, for eternity.

Now, let's take Point Three. DISTINCTION MUST BE MADE BETWEEN THE SOUL AND THE SPIRIT. This point now recognizes that there is a distinction. While they operate in conjunction or they operate independently, distinction must be made between the soul and the spirit. This distinction is declared in Hebrews 4:12. “The Word of God is alive, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder, the separation, “of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Only the Bible separates or makes a distinction between the human soul and the human spirit.
So, distinction must be made between the soul and the spirit. Now, in this connection, the unbeliever is born into the world. He looks like this: He has an old sin nature, which is the basis of his spiritual death. He has a human soul. **He DOES NOT have an activated spirit.** When he accepts Jesus Christ as His personal Saviour he is said to be born again. This is one of the many things that happen in the process of the new birth. He now has a human spirit. He still has the human soul and he still has the old sin nature.

The unbeliever is dichotomous. The believer is trichotomous. **Dichotomy is the body and soul. Trichotomy is body, soul and spirit.** So, still in point three, the believer is a trichotomist. 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.”

But the unbeliever is a dichotomist. 1 Corinthians 2:14, “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” Because the Greek of this verse says, “the soulish man,” literally PSCHUCOS, in the English it is translated the “natural man.” “But the soulish man cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are learned,” or discerned, “by the human spirit.”

We have the soulish man. The unbeliever has a soul and a body. He is a dichotomist. The believer has a body, soul and spirit. He is a trichotomist. So, spiritual death entails the loss of the human spirit, plus the acquisition of the old sin nature. In other words, Adam. We are just the opposite of Adam as believers. Adam started out trichotomous. He started out with a human spirit and a human soul and a human body. But when he sinned, negative signals, he lost his human spirit and he picked up the old sin nature. He acquired the old sin nature through negative volition. So he now became spiritually dead. We are just the opposite.

Adam went from trichotomous to dichotomy, and back to trichotomy when he accepted Christ. When he became a believer, his human spirit was activated. The only difference is that he still had the old sin nature. We are just the opposite from Adam. We are born dichotomous. We are born with soul and body, and of course, the old sin nature. When we are born again we are trichotomous and then we have a human spirit, and soul, and body, and old sin nature.

Next: Point Four. This is a very important point because of the RESURRECTION. Revelation 20:4-6, “And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”

In this passage we have resurrection. To understand this, the soul helps you to understand what happens in resurrection. **In salvation it is the soul that is saved, NOT THE BODY.** Be sure to get it, NOT THE BODY. The soul is saved. **The body is not saved. It is the soul, not the body, which is saved.**

Psalm 19:7, “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.” Psalm 34:22, “The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servants: and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate.” Hebrews 10:39, “But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition: but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.” Mark 8:36, 37, “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man
give in exchange for his soul?’ This says BODY? No way!! SOUL!!! THE SOUL IS SAVED!

1 Peter 1:9, “Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.” In salvation it is the soul which is saved, NOT THE BODY.

Now, what happens to the body in physical death? Let’s take the death of a believer, because this is much more pleasant. We will not take the death of the unbeliever. Here is the physical death of a believer. He has a human soul and he has a human spirit. His spirit and his soul actually leave the body and go into the presence of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8, “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.” The body, then, is deserted.

Well, if the body is buried, it is decomposed. Or, if it is burned, it is all the same. It is in the soil. The gases which form the chemical chemistry of the body simply go into the chemistry of the soil. Also, the gases which form the chemistry of the body go into the chemistry of the air. And that physical body is through.

You can always tell when heathenism comes into a funeral. The emphasis is always on the physical body. The physical body gets the coffin, the burial. The physical body gets glorified and people walk by and look at the physical body. This is dumb. You can’t imagine people being so dumb as to think the body means anything. The one thing you get rid of at the point of physical death is the body. There is nothing glorious about it. We spend billions of tax payers’ dollars trying to get bodies of dead soldiers back to this country. Let the tree lay where it falls. We go out and find them, haul up the bones and bring them back and try to identify them. And put them in a bag and then a box and then have a funeral.

That is the wrong emphasis and that is a part of heathenism. If they put me in a box and someone opens the box, I will sit up and say, “I gave at the office.” We can scatter the ashes, in this day of population explosion, and this is what we need. We don’t need funerals as we have them today. Memorial services are fine. But what we need to do is to take the ashes out somewhere. With this population explosion, we are in a jam.

You can’t imagine how apostate and heathenistic it is to glorify the dead body. That is stupidity in itself. The real person is not there anymore. When you die, your decomposed body may be on the Earth somewhere, but your soul and your spirit are in the presence of the Lord.

There are many Christians who throw up their hands in horror when they hear about a body that has been cremated. There is nothing wrong with cremation. It is very sensible. It is a good thing. Most people think it is anti-Christian. But is isn’t anti-Christian at all. Unless you do it like the Vikings. The Vikings got drunk and threw themselves on the fire and yelled for Odin to come and haul them off to Valhalla. We don’t have to do that. The burning of a body is excellent. You see, this principle and category of the Word called “the soul” has some practical application.

All right, the soul is saved. The body is not. See, you’re going to get a new body, a resurrection body, a body exactly like that of the Son of God’s. Philippians 3:21, “Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself.” So, it is the soul which is saved.

Let’s take a look at man. Man has a soul. It is his soul which is saved. The old sin nature is a part of the soul. The soul is said to be saved. The body isn’t saved. The body goes back to chemistry. The human spirit, which the believer receives at the point of salvation, is joined to the soul and they both go up. The soul and the spirit go up into the presence of the Lord in heaven, with all the perceptive abilities which they possess, all the individuality. They remain in the presence of the Lord until the Rapture.
Then, at the Rapture, the dead in Christ shall rise first. **So just a few seconds before the Rapture, the soul and spirit come down.** And wherever the death occurred, at that point, the soul and the spirit pick up a resurrection body. Believers who are alive on the Earth pick up a resurrection body. Their bodies are changed, and the whole lot go up together. They are changed into something brand new. None of the parts are left over. It’s like having an Edsel and waving a wand and suddenly it is a Rolls Royce. There isn’t a single Edsel part left.

**The old sin nature is WIPED OUT at the moment of physical death.** That part of the soul is wiped out. You will not be able to contact the dead. The witch of Endor is demonism with interference by the Holy Spirit. In that Scripture, Samuel’s soul and spirit were hauled out of the place of Paradise, for the departed Old Testament saints, and Samuel told Saul that he was going to die. Samuel had not finished his work when he died. He had this one job to do.

Now, Point Four says, **IN SALVATION IT IS THE SOUL WHICH IS SAVED, NOT THE BODY.** We get a brand new body. The old “Model T” becomes a Rolls.

Point Five: **THE SOUL IS THE SEAT OF HUMAN MISERY.** All misery is connected with the soul. The body has pain and nerve centers, but this is mechanical pain. **BUT ALL MISERY IS IN THE HUMAN SOUL.** Psalm 106:15, “And He gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.” Psalm 6:3, “My soul is also sore vexed: but Thou, O Lord, how long?” Psalm 119:25, 28, “My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken Thou me according to Thy Word. My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen Thou me according to Thy Word.” We will not go into the soul kinks at this time. But, just to set up this principle that the soul is the source of human misery.

Point Six: **THE BELIEVER OCCUPIED WITH THE DETAILS OF LIFE IS CALLED “FULL SOUL.”** “The full soul loatheth the honeycomb,” hates honeycomb, or honey. The “full soul” is simply the believer who is occupied with the details of life. He is minus the Word and occupied with the details of life. He despises the honey which is analogous to the Word.

What is the “full soul?” Well, you go back to the essence of the soul, category two, mentality or thinking. **So it simply means to be completely filled up with HUMAN VIEWPOINT, and in the realm of the human spirit, to be minus the Word.** That is it. That is the “full soul.” **In other words, the mentality of the soul is filled up with human viewpoint and it is not offset with Divine Viewpoint. “The full soul loatheth the honeycomb.”** Proverbs 27:7. The believer occupied with the details of life is called a “full soul.”

Point Seven: **THE SOUL IS THE BASIS OF HUMAN LOVE.** The unbeliever can love because the soul is the basis of it. His capacity is limited, but he can do it. 1 Samuel 18:1, “And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.” The soul is the basis of human love. 1 Samuel 18:1 says the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David. Now, here we are with the soul again, the essence of the soul. Category two mentality of the soul, or thinking.

You have heard this a million times, “Love is a mental attitude.” Jonathan’s soul was knit to David’s. **When a believer fills up his human spirit with the Word, then his capacity for love is fantastic, in category one love toward God especially.** The unbeliever has mentality in his soul, but he doesn’t have the human spirit, therefore, **he cannot love God.** He can love in category two love, opposite sex; and category three, friendship.

So, the soul is the basis for human love. 1 Samuel 18:1. And love therefore is a mental attitude. 1 Peter 1:22, “Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the Truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.”
Point Eight: The last point. **IN PHYSICAL DEATH THE SOUL DEPARTS FROM THE BODY TO BE WITH THE LORD.** The real you leaves the body, the tent. 2 Corinthians 5:8. Revelation 21:4, “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

Now, if the real you, the soul, leaves the body at the moment of physical death, can you feel any pain again? What does the Word **pain** mean? Pain is the soul in the body with the nerve centers telegraphing to the mentality, etc., that something is out of order.

You know, many times in mechanical systems they put red lights in for warnings, or buzzers, and when something is out of order the buzzer or the red light goes on. Actually that is what the pain in the human body is, a flashing red light, or a buzzer going off, saying something is out of order. That’s all.

But when you get out of the body, you no longer hear buzzers or flashing red lights. When you get out of the body, Revelation 21:4, “No more sorrow, no more tears, no more pain, no more death. The old things...” the soul in the body, “pass away. Behold, all things are new.” At that point you see.

Now that completes the real you, the soul. The essence of the soul. And that explains one word in Revelation 20:4.

Buddy Dano, Pastor
Divine Viewpoint
www.divineviewpoint.com