

Spirinatomy 101

July 22, 2012

by C. Benjamin Dill

Here at Lighthouse we often find that our English language is inadequate to describe some of the amazing things we learn about our Lord and about Biblical doctrine; so sometimes when the words we have don't get it done, we just invent a new one. Today's new word is "spirinatomy".

It is taken from "anatomy" which is the structure of animals, plants and particularly the human body; and your spirit which is the invisible real you that is eternal. Thus, "spirinatomy", the structure of the entire being we call man.

When you go to the doctor because you are sick or injured, the idea is that you go to someone who is trained and educated in how your body works and functions. They examine your body and then, based on their knowledge, they diagnose your problem and recommend some treatment that is known to affect your type of illness or injury.

Men of God who are the real pastors and real teachers of the Lord's real Churches are the spiritual doctors who are called and trained by the Lord to know how you work spiritually.

We all know that among the good doctors and real medical men and women out there today, there are some real quacks.

Because Satan is real and he hates God and he hates you, he has seen to it that there are lots and lots of spiritual quacks as well. Most religion, as it attempts to deal with genuine spiritual issues, deficiencies and problems, is the basic equivalent of a witch doctor with a rattle chanting magic words trying to heal your body.

The Bible is the one and only true and accurate resource on how you are made and how you work and function spiritually. This resource is provable and it is also thoroughly proven. Should you have doubts please allow us the opportunity to show you the evidence.

Our **spirinatomy textbook, aka The Holy Bible**, tells us that in the beginning God created man in His own image and also in His likeness:

Genesis 1:26-27

26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 2:7 Tells us how He did it: **And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.**

You can see from verse 26 when God said let “US” make man, He is more than just a one-part being. So are we.

Like God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit; we are soul, body and spirit; like God we are a triune being.

1Thessalonians 5:23 is an example of the many times in the scriptures we are referred to as three in one:

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.**

On the spiritual side of us; the invisible part we cannot see but is most obviously there, our textbook uses the terms **spirit** and **soul**. The soul or Gr. “psyche” is sometimes referred to and translated to the word “mind” as in

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;

Within the soul of man we think, we consider, we decide, we choose, we make up our mind about things. As those choices and decisions become a part of who and what we are, they become a matter of an even deeper aspect of the soul; it's what we all - as well as the Bible - call **the heart**.

Matthew 13:15 For this people's **heart** is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their heart*, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

This term is the Gr. Word “kardia”, but none of the more than 150 times used in the New Testament does it speak of the organ that pumps our blood.

With our heart we think and reason:

Luke 5:22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, **What reason ye in your hearts?**

Mark 2:6 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

With our heart we love: **Mark 12:30** **And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.**

With our heart we believe:

Romans 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness;...

To get all of this in perspective we can make some comparisons:

On our physiological side we have our flesh. Within our bodies of flesh we have a brain that sends out signals to our members; we have a heart that supplies life-giving blood to all our parts; we have lungs that turn breath into life as they replenish our blood.

These vital parts all working together in one body are what we call a *living being*.

On our spiritual side; that invisible and eternal side of us that is just as real as the physiological side, we have *our spirit*. Your spirit is who you are if you take off your body. Also within our spiritual side, whether within our spirit or somehow partially separate perhaps like our brain and heart are separate within our bodies, we have *our soul*.

The functions of the mind and of the heart reside in this part of our spiritual side; they are not physiological. There are many cases of individuals who have died - perhaps on the operating table or drowning in frigid water - with all bodily functions having ceased for quite a long while in some cases and then were brought back. Their awareness and thinking processes went right on; usually even more

than ever. They come back to tell us what they experienced while their bodies were dead.

You will not cease to exist when your brain dies; you will go on for eternity...somewhere.

We draw and photograph and study the human body. Medical students even take actual cadavers - vacated human bodies - apart to see how they work.

Since the spiritual side of us is invisible, it is a little harder to see and study; you will have to use your imagination. Picture in your mind the outline form of a human body; maybe like a gingerbread man cookie cutter. Now picture a smaller form like it within that one; we will, over the next couple of weeks, use this highly imaginary picture to illustrate the condition of *our spirit*.

Now, with this **spirinatomy illustration** in mind, let us listen to God as He describes our present state.

I. Why are you what you are?

A. We describe our present state physiologically as good health or bad health; how does God describe a man's present state spiritually before salvation?

1. Dead in sins: **Ephesians 2:1** *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were **dead in sins**, hath quickened us together with Christ, by (grace ye are saved;)

2. Unrighteous:

1Corinthians 6:9 Know ye not that the **unrighteous** shall not inherit the kingdom of God?

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is **none righteous**, no, not one:

3. Condemned: **John 3:18** ...he that believeth not is **condemned** already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

4. Without Strength: **Romans 5:6** For when we were yet **without strength**, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

5. Ignorant and blind: **Ephesians 4:18** Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the **ignorance** that is in them, because of the **blindness** of their heart:

6. Evil: **Matthew 12:34** O generation of vipers, how can ye, being **evil**, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

B. If indeed you are not yet born again, the reason you are what you are is because sin has destroyed you spiritually.

1. **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:

2. Your spirit is already dead in sins.

3. Because of sin, your flesh is dying.

4. If you should remain unsaved, a second death awaits you:

5. **Revelation 20:12-15**

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Now let's look at:

II. Why you do what you do.

A. When children grow up and they learn right from wrong, because they are sinners, they sooner or later choose the wrong as we all do.

1. This is when the evidence of our spiritual condition first becomes easy to see.
2. My, what a transition it is when we see wonderful innocent babies turn into little sinner tornadoes as the effects of sin takes its course.
3. First it is cute, then later on it becomes annoying and then about the time they become teenagers the effects of our sinful nature are just not funny anymore!

B. Parents and other adults say some pretty hurtful things to our kids that really reflect our ignorance of their spiritual condition.

1. We say “look alive, what’s the matter with you?” How about, he is **dead in sins**?
2. “Why can’t you act right?” How about because he is not right; is not **unrighteous** the word?
3. “Why can’t you be strong enough to say no?” How about because he is **without strength**?
4. “Why can’t you see where you are headed?” How about because he is **blind**?

5. “You just don’t ever learn?” How about because he is **ignorant**?
6. “Why don’t you quit lying and getting into trouble?” How about because he is **evil**?
7. “Why don’t you even try?” No use; **already condemned.**
8. Why is the music so loud; why do you stay up so late; why must you stay distracted with texting, social networking, gaming, drugs, drink, and dare we say sex?
9. Because when that lost teenager gets all alone and quiet all he has is his own dead, unrighteous, weak, blind, ignorant, evil, guilty, condemned self!

III. What then, is the solution?

A. One supposed solution is that you ‘get you some religion’.

1. Instead of going where the world goes to distract themselves, you now go where people get high on Jesus. “Woohoo, praise Jesus!!!”
2. Do lots of good. Visit the nursing home, rescue some abandoned kittens, walk a little old lady across the street.
3. You still listen to loud music, but now it’s loud Christian music!

4. Now you are acting better, the parents are off your back, and you are even doing some good.
5. But when you finally turn the music off and you finally get quiet and still and alone; you are right back with your dead, unrighteous, weak, blind, ignorant, evil, guilty, condemned self!
6. The fact is that sin has destroyed your spirit and no matter what or how hard you try there is not one blessed thing you can do about it!
7. To affect any lasting change in what you do, you must change what you are; something that you cannot do on your own.
8. Unless you want to spend your whole life in this miserable state; and then spend eternity a million times worse; your only answer is Jesus.

B. How can Jesus fix this; what can He do about it? [I'm so glad you asked].

1. Jesus can and will save you from your sins!
2. Oh, yes; we are all about getting saved! Here's why:
3. First; all that sin, your sin; has to be dealt with. There are consequences: physical death, spiritual death and then being discarded into an eternal burning garbage heap called hell.

4. When you get saved, Jesus is going to wipe your account clean forever because He paid it for you Himself; that is why He died, He did it for you.

5. This alone is the most important thing of all; but it is just the beginning!

In Conclusion: Next week, Lord willing, we are going to look at what the Scriptures say as to how we receive this saving work of Jesus.

Not only that, we will illustrate what actually occurs when we do receive the saving work of Jesus.

You will understand with perhaps greater clarity than ever before why Jesus said “Ye must be born again!”

I want to challenge our teens to prepare yourselves this week to be ready to give an answer to those who will ask you about this amazing hope you have in Jesus Christ.

This year I believe the Lord would have us go to camp as a hundred member evangelistic team; doing the job right and making God’s plan of salvation clear to everyone there who does not yet understand it!