

The Spirit Connection

Scripture tells us that man was created as a body-soul-spirit being. Therefore, just as God the Creator is a triune God, so also did He create man a triplicate being. In Genesis 1:26, God said "...Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..." In this verse God reveals His more-than-one nature whereby He, in one of these natures, is speaking to the others of His own triune self. Throughout the Holy Bible there are many inferences, as well as very clear statements of His actual three-in-one being. He has identified these as the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

So Scripture tells us that at some point in eternity He / They chose to create man, a special being, in their image, who would be above even the angels in the structure of God's eternal realm. This occurred about six thousand years ago, as Scripture makes clear regardless of what the world and "science" would have one believe.

Adam, the created man, consisted of a body, soul (ego, intellect, will, emotions, psyche) and spirit (1Thessalonians 5:23). The spirit of man is differentiated from the soul, because it is that part of man intended by God through which man could communicate directly with Him without need for any other audible or visual means. This communication with God could not in any way be achieved by the soul without this spirit connection. Genuine peace and fellowship with God is not possible for the soul without the spirit connection with God. Adam was originally created as a properly connected spiritual being, as was Eve. By close fellowship with the Creator, the spirit dominated the soul and the soul controlled the flesh, keeping it in submission and thereby maintaining the correct sinless relationship with God. The spirit connection, much like an umbilical cord, served to keep God as the primary source of all spiritual thoughts, nourishment and actions, as well as the recognition of their dependence on Him. However, our Sovereign God in His omniscient wisdom in accordance with His ultimate

purpose, also imbued Adam and Eve with sovereign wills of their own, that is, an ability to make choices, an attribute which He had also given the angels. That ability to choose made possible that first sin.

Adam's sin caused a profound change. Not only was the spirit connection, that umbilical cord, broken, but also you might say his spirit died. That supernatural, immaculate and divine Spirit-to-spirit communication was no longer possible. The plug was pulled; the lights went out. Man was now spiritually detached from God, who until then had been both Father and Friend. To say that the "lights went out" is more literal than one might suspect. We find in Genesis 3:7 after their sin, Adam and Eve both discovered their nakedness. They suddenly realized that the divine light, that spirit filled glow of Godliness that had clothed them, was gone, "and they knew that they were naked; and they sowed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons." This was man's first religious act, an attempt to cover, that is, to hide his sins. We also find evidence of that divine spiritual glow in the face of Moses when he came down from the mountain after having been in the presence of the Lord for sometime in Exodus 34:35. We see this same glow of divine light shining from Jesus at the transfiguration in Matthew 17:2. Revelation also provides several examples of this as well.

With the breaking of that Spirit-to-spirit connection and man's spirit now functionally dead, he was no longer in the image of God, for he was no longer a triune being, but only a dual being having functionally only a body and soul. As Dr. Lloyd Nelson Jones puts it so well "*Soul power was not enough to keep the lust against the body in check and tragically for man, it left him pridefully deceived into viewing himself as an independent creature not requiring any help beyond his own strength and mental abilities.*" Sadly that has been man's condition continuously to this day. Once broken, that Spirit-to-spirit connection could not be restored by anything which man could do. Therefore, after "the fall," all mankind has been born with this condition, that is with a sin nature. Without a living Spirit-to-spirit connection, having only a soul and a body, mankind has been easy prey to the seducing spirits under Satan's control, thus adding fuel to man's now innate

nature to sin, that is, to disobey God, and to seek distance from Him and His prescribed ways.

If you're genuinely a born-again Christian, you must be incredibly grateful to God for having provided through Christ Jesus, a way in which that Spirit-to-spirit connection could be restored! In making Himself actually born as Man, an absolutely sinless Man, then paying the entire price of sin by suffering and dying, after which He was resurrected from the dead, Jesus has now made it possible for man's spirit to also be resurrected from the dead. That Spirit-to-spirit connection is restored. Thus the lights are on again for those of a true faith in Jesus. He plugged our cord back into the socket providing access to that incredible power grid through which our lights will never again go out, even throughout eternity!

If you have received into your heart an absolute certainty of the Gospel message and have thereby put your faith and trust in Christ Jesus as your Savior, and have also made Him your Lord, you can believe that you are born-again, as Scripture says you must be in order to enter into eternal heaven. If this is a recent event, and you find that it is difficult to discern that restored Spirit-to-spirit connection, be patient, pray, study God's Word and persevere. Even though the connection has been restored, that is the plug is back in the socket making potentially available to you that full force of God's spiritual power, you may not experience much of it initially. Remember, that the sinful nature is still in you. That natural self, with the help of Satan and the world, are always struggling, and hoping to again pull the plug (which they can not do) or at least keep the power and its effectiveness as weak as possible. Nevertheless, take heart because once you are His, He has promised in Philippians 1:6, "...that He which has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ..."

However, and this is of "eternal" importance, if the light hasn't gone on, or you see no change in your life, its time to thoroughly "examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves." (2Corinthians 13:5). The minimal evidence of a saving faith should be a contrite, repentant and humble heart always seeking to be obedient to God's

Word, as studying His Word becomes a major part of your daily nourishment. If these evidences are weak or lacking, and the natural self is still in effective control, then you had better, and quickly, check the plug; it may not have ever been plugged into the Holy Socket! Your faith may not be what you thought it was, and the Spirit-to-spirit connection may not have taken place. In any case, your best posture is on your knees praying to God, first praising Him for His incredible offer of salvation, then petitioning Him to validate the saving nature of your faith, to fully resurrect your spirit, and to turn up the voltage in order that you may recognize and have more and more of His divine light.