

# The Value of a Soul

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## There Are Sins of the Spirit (Cont'd)

### *In Review*

#### 1. A Haughty Spirit

Proverbs 16:18 "Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall."

Haughty = exalted

The lie our inner self believes: *I am self-sufficient*

#### 2. An Angry Spirit

Ecclesiastes 7:9 "Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, For anger rests in the bosom of fools."

The lie: *I have the right to I have the right to control my environment.*

#### 3. A Hardened Spirit

Daniel 5:20 "But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him."

The lie: *I don't need to listen to others*

#### 4. A Treacherous Spirit

Malachi 2:16 "For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce, For it covers one's garment with violence," Says the LORD of hosts. "Therefore take heed to your spirit, That you do not deal treacherously."

The lie: *My desires outrank your needs*

#### 5. A Deceitful Spirit

Psalms 32:2 "Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit."

The lie: *I have only to appear to be good*

2 Corinthians 7:1 "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

#### 6. An Unfaithful Spirit

Psalms 78:8 "They would not be like their forefathers— a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him."

**The lie:** *Greater fulfillment can be found outside of God-*

Most natural state of a man is to be dependent on God. Unfaithfulness brings death to our covenant relationship with Him. Impatience is one cause of unfaithfulness and will make God's promises seem inadequate (Genesis 16:1-12). Unfaithfulness allows the voice of man or carnality to take preeminence over the Voice of God.

Mark 8:36- For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Matthew 10:26-39; Mark 8:34-37.

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## The soul

- the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversions (our heart)
- the (human) soul in so far as it is constituted that by the right use of the aids offered it by God it can attain its highest end and secure eternal blessedness, the soul regarded as a moral being designed for everlasting life
- the soul as an essence which differs from the body and is not dissolved by death (distinguished from other parts of the body)

1 Thess. 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.*

Man is made up of three basic parts...spirit, soul and body. If you remove the spirit and soul from a man, bones are what you would have left.

John 6:63- *The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. NIV*

The spirit (Holy Spirit) is the life of God within you. God puts it there when you surrender your life to Him. You can grieve it (Ephesians 4:30), but actually you cannot control it. It carries a moment-to-moment guiding authority.

The soul however is your humanness.

Matt 10:39-*Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it. NIV*

The word "life" in this verse is the Greek word *psuche* which means soul. It is your human nature. The soul is the most very thing you love about yourself. The essence of who we are. If we put ourselves above God we will actually lose our life or our souls.

The soul is the only part of us that can be redeemed. It is very valuable to God. It is eternal. The Bible commands us to love our neighbor the way we love ourselves. In our humanness we do not love anything more than we love ourselves. Therefore if we would love others the way we love our self we would die for them (John 15:13).

## Our Will

Our soul is where our will lives. When we surrender our will we surrender our souls. God will not violate our free will, this would breach the whole nature of relationship with Him. The fidelity of our relationship is the freedom to choose.

Satan claims that God is manipulating or controlling Job's love for Him.

*Satan's claim in Job 1:9-11 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? 10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his*

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*substance is increased in the land. 11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.*

However God's test of the relationship between Him and Job was proved to be based on Job's desire to be with God. Job wanted to stay with God by his own free choice, not because of the implication by Satan. Satan implied that the blessings of God had bought Job's love.

Freedom of choice describes the saint's prayer life. The act of prayer is surrendering the will unto God. There must be a desire for God before you will come into submission unto Him. The word "submission" in the Greek means to put yourself under someone or something. It is similar to the words patience or perseverance.

James 1:1-12

Any temptation is a challenge to do your own thing; to come up above or out from under God. Temptation is a decision concerning the Lordship of Christ. If we obey Christ, that means that Jesus is Lord over us. If we give in to the temptation it means we have placed ourselves over Christ.

Surrendering the will means self-denial, not self-discipline. Discipline is involved but we must die to self. Exercise uses self-discipline; however the goal is mostly for self-gratification or personal benefit. Christ did not allow people to exalt Him. He did not want his miracles published-it seems we do! He wanted those who were healed to worship God.

### **God Keeps Reaching Out.**

*Job 33:28 He will deliver his soul from going into the pit, and his life shall see the light. 29 Lo, all these things worketh God oftentimes with man, 30 To bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living.*

This applies to the believer and non-believer.

God continues to work in us to keep our soul from going down into the pit. He want us to be enlightened with the light of His Son. When begin to pray for someone God goes to work. As long as we pray he continues to work, however because God will not violate a person's free will our prayers are not always answer the way we expect. When we pray the Holy Ghost gains a freedom to arrange a person's circumstances so as to make it easy for them to surrender their will to God.

The person being prayed for is continually being brought to a point of decision. He comes continually face to face with a decision about his soul. Every time they turnaround they run into a Christian. People at work may be witnessing to him. He hears

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it on the radio and television. All this takes place to bring the person to a point of decision. If at the point of decision they refuse Christ, then the Holy Spirit goes back to work to bring them to another point of decision. The process continues as long as we continue to pray for them. As Job put it “God will do this time and time again, to keep our soul from going down into the pit.”

### **No Amount of Money**

There is no dollar amount you put on the value of a soul because the value of a soul is based on love. You cannot sell what you love, but you can give it away (John 3:16). The value of a soul lies within the very framework of who God is. A child is so valuable to parents because it contains the parent’s very life.

Genesis 22:1-16; Hebrews 11:17-19 -God would never have sold his son, but He allowed him to die. Abraham would never have taken any amount of money for his son Isaac, but he was willing to put him to death for God’s sake. He was willing to give him to God. Biblical love is described in 1Corinthians 13:4-8. Love is not self-seeking. If Abraham would have bartered with God over the value of Isaac’s soul and come up with some dollar figure, and then offered to sell Isaac to God, that would have been self-seeking and less than love. Instead Abraham displayed his love for God when he put that which meant the most to him, his son, on the alter and was ready to sacrifice him to God. He was willing to give his son, but he would never have sold him.

### **Devoted Soul**

Leviticus 27:28 *But nothing that a person owns and devotes[a] to the Lord—whether a human being or an animal or family land—may be sold or redeemed; everything so devoted is most holy to the Lord.*

When you dedicate your life to God, you give Him your soul. We cannot sell it. If we give our soul to God, he will keep it for us for eternity. When something is devoted to the Lord, it becomes holy unto Him. That which is Holy is separated. A holy person lives separate from the world.

An ungodly person lives for the world and will subsequently sell his soul to the world.

1 Kings 21:25 *There was never anyone like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the Lord...*

Ahab sold his soul; that is equivalent to keeping it for ourselves. Selling our souls is giving ourselves over to the sensual pleasures of this life. It is nurturing our flesh. Anything devoted to the Lord is holy. The only way to keep our life is to give it away to God. We cannot give God *perse'* our flesh and bones. The spirit that dwells within us is already His; we cannot give that to Him (Ecclesiastes 12:7). The only significant thing that we love most that we can give to Him is our soul, our human nature.