

The Essence of a Human

- I.** Every human is composed of three elements: body, spirit, and soul (1 Thes. 5:23): anthropology.
 1. Our earthly body is a temporary dwelling place for our person; it is like a tent (2 Cor. 5:1-3; 2 Pet. 1:13).
 2. The body is not the person.
 3. The earthly body dies, not the person (Jam. 2:26).
 - 1) It dies when the human spirit leaves (Jam. 2:26).
 - 2) It dies when the human soul leaves it (Lu. 23:43; Mt. 12:40; Acts 2:27).
 4. Human are inherently limited in time and space—finite.
- II.** The human spirit is immaterial (Lu. 24:39; 1 Cor. 2:11).
 1. Although, ethereal, (without substance, intangible, incorporeal), at the same time it is real.
 2. The human spirit is finite, limited to the body.
 3. The human spirit is the person's realm of rational thinking
 4. The human spirit is that which makes humans different from animals (Jam. 3:6-9).
- III.** The soul and spirit are different elements (Heb. 4:12).
- IV.** The term 'soul' is used five different ways; however, it always has its root connotation: life animating and emotions.
 1. Soul is used to indicate that which animates the body; it gives life through the blood (Lev. 17:11, 14).
 - 1) Correctly translated 'life' (Gen. 9:4; Mt. 16:26; Lu. 9:24).
 - 2) Gives life to both man and animals.
 2. Soul is used as a figure of speech to mean an individual—*synecdoche, a part for the whole: "all hands on deck", the White House=the administration* (Acts 2:41; 27:37; Rom. 13:1).
 3. Soul is used of living creatures, including animals (Gen. 12:21, 24, 30; 2:7).
 4. Soul is used as an immaterial part of man without emphases on function (1 Pet. 1:9; Heb. 4:12).
 5. The root meaning—below.
- V.** The root meaning of 'soul'.
 1. Life animating through the blood (Lev. 17:11, 14).
 2. Interprets the five senses to the mind (Lu. 12:19-22; Rev. 18:12-14).
 3. Seat of emotions (Mt. 12:18; 26:38; Acts 14:2; Phil. 1:27; Col. 3:23; 1 Pet. 1:22).
 4. The survival instinct (Job 2:4).