

The Structure of Man Introduction

Overview: Psalm 139:14 states that we are made wonderfully complex. A better understanding of our complexity will help us in every aspect of our walk with the Lord.

A. Monochotomy

1. There is just one entity to man: a body with its parts.
2. What you see is what you get.
3. If you can't measure it, you can't study it.
4. No life after death.
5. Hedonistic approach to life.
6. Conclusion: Cogito, ergo sum. (I think. Therefore, I am.)

B. Dichotomy

1. There are two entities to man. Gen 2:7; 1 Cor 15:45
2. Man is a body with a soul. Matt 10:28; 16:26
3. Man is (has) a spirit. Ps 51:10; 142:3; 31:5; Mark 14:38
4. Conclusion: Man is a body with a spirit/soul.

C. Trichotomy

1. There are three entities to man.
2. Man is a spirit with a soul and he lives in a body.
3. Your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved. 1 Thess 5:23
4. Man is made in the image of God. Gen 1:26
5. God is (or has) three parts. Matt 28:19; 1 John 5:7
6. Conclusion: Soul is the mind, will and emotions.

D. Pentachotomy

1. Man is a spirit being, living in a body.
2. He has a heart, soul and mind.
3. We can see the body. 1 Cor 9:27
4. Preserve wholly spirit, soul and body. 1 Thes 5:23
5. You must love God with heart, soul and mind. Matt 22:37
6. You are a spirit. John 3:5-8
7. Spirits are born again. 2 Cor 5:17

E. Defining the Pentachotomy (5 Parts of Man)

There are almost as many references to the heart as there are for spirit and soul combined.

Verses with: Spirit (456), Heart (765), Soul (432).

1. Spirit – The real you.

- When the spirit leaves the body there is no life. 2 Cor 5:8
- The spirit is born again. John 3:5-8
- The reborn spirit is without sin. 1 John 3:4-9

2. Heart – Core value system, our operating beliefs.

- Powers our life – like the governor on an engine. Prov 23:7
- Produces spiritual results through our mouth. Prov 4:23
- Needs to be purified and restored. Matt 12:34

3. Soul – Seat of our ambitions, goals, desires & plans.

- Sets the direction of our life from our heart. 3 John 1:2; 2 Tim 2:25-26
- Needs to be delivered. James 1:21

4. Mind – Place of thoughts, analysis from the 5 senses

- Battleground – satan's darts in our mind. 2 Cor 10:5
- Needs to be renewed to the word of God. Rom 12:1-2

5. Body – Our physical earth house/suit.

- Our 5 senses connect us to this world. 2 Cor 5:1-4
- The body needs to be healed. Prov 4:20-23
- The body needs to be controlled. Luke 4:18
- The body needs to be controlled. 1 Cor 9:27

Suggestion: We have been taught to pray precisely and to move away from shotgun prayers; let us apply the same approach to praying for improvements in ourselves.