

## I. Intro

### A. Composition — Body and Soul

1. Theology Proper is always the measuring rod for everything — God ALONE has life in himself
  - a) Herman Bavinck “the knowledge of God is the only dogma, the exclusive content, of the entire field of dogmatics [theology]. All the doctrines treated in dogmatics—whether they concern the universe, humanity, Christ, and so forth—are but the explication of the one central dogma of the knowledge of God. All things are considered in light of God, subsumed under him, traced back to him as the starting point.”
  - b) Creator/Creature Distinction
    - (1) We must be careful as we get into the “stuff” of humanity that we don’t too quickly read back into God he’s like us
      - (a) Divine Impassibility and God’s emotions..?
  - c) Whereas, We are composite beings (made up of parts), God is a simple being—Divine Simplicity
    - (1) He is Spirit [John 4:24] and does not have “parts”
      - (a) God IS his attributes
      - (b) We can only “possess” attributes
    - (2) You can’t “chop up” God and He still be God
2. We should study/meditate on God’s attributes and know them well which will result in a better “framing” of understanding ourselves
  - a) Isaiah 40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
    - (1) Omnipotent; Omniscient; All-Wise
  - b) Isaiah 40:17-18 All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him?
    - (1) Incomprehensible
  - c) Psalm 145:3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.
    - (1) Transcendence
  - d) 1 Samuel 15:29 And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret.”
    - (1) Yet 2 times in this chapter the Lord “regrets”
    - (2) Impassible
  - e) John 5:26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.
    - (1) Aseity
  - f) Isaiah 57:15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy

place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

(1) Eternality

g) Omnipresent, Sovereign, Just etc

3. In talk of “composition” we’re under the umbrella of ontology
  - a) God is an entirely DIFFERENT being — he’s not a superhero who is just *quantitatively* better/bigger He is *qualitatively*
  - b) Also, not wanting to belabor BUT we always have to think of human being-ness as a *from* God reality
    - (1) He is life and gives it; we can only receive it.
    - (2) Our knowledge of God is analogical

B. Dichotomy vs Trichotomy

1. There are passages which distinguish soul vs spirit
2. Will be operating from a dichotomy perspective
  - a) Will have some links on website

## II. Genesis 2:4-7

A. v4 summarizes Chapter 1 then “zooms” in TOLEDOT—We’re zooming in and getting more details

1. Frames the story of the following section — v4 of this good creation that God made then “zooming in” on Adam(Man) and Woman
  - a) Eg. 5:1 Adam “zooms” to Noah etc

B. v5-6 Structured like 1:2 (formless and void) no bush or grain BECAUSE no rain, no man

1. “Zooming in”

C. v7 *Adam* is formed (fashioned) from the *adamah* — BODY

1. God shapes a body from the “stuff” of the ground

D. Yahweh breathed into him life and *adam* became a living SOUL (nephesh)

1. Physical life as well too (not a hard distinction)
  - a) Heart, brain etc
  - b) It’s **not** “we’re souls and we HAVE a body”
2. Implied in this is our faculties of will, conscience, mind/intellect

E. A beautiful “fittedness”

1. God is Spirit; God is the Sovereign King
2. He **doesn’t** place an angel (spiritual being) over the physical/material creation to rule it under him
  - a) Instead, Humanity is made as the image and charged to rule under him

(1) He’s to subdue the earth of which he’s made of the dust [NET uses “soil”] of the *adamah*

(2) He’s called a *living creature* as are the animals in 1:20,24 [nephesh]

(a) Do animals have souls?

F. Body

1. Is not “lesser” than the SOUL

- a) If your heart stops beating you stop
- b) God has designed our immaterial parts intellect/will to function through/by means of the physical Brain etc
  - (1) Designed together

G. Soul “Umbrella”

- 1. Heart - In most instances lēb/lēbāb is associated with the vital center of humans for emotional and intellectual activity.
- 2. Mind/Intellect
- 3. Will

III. How has Sin ruined it?

A. Total Package (Total Depravity)

- 1. Ephesians 2 & Romans 3
- 2. Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—
  - a) 1689 6.2: By this sin our first parents fell from their original righteousness and communion with God. We fell in them, and through this, death came upon all. All became dead in sin and completely defiled in all the capabilities and parts of soul and body.

**B. DEATH separates what is meant to be together**

IV. How has Christ redeemed it?

A. 1 Cor 15 Context — Corinth has problems much of which involve around issues causing **Division**

- 1. v1-11 Paul gives a gospel summary
- 2. v12 Some denying the Resurrection of believers
  - a) IF no Resurrection our Faith is useless
  - b) 1 Corinthians 15:20-21 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
- 3. v32b If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”

B. READ v35-58 Comment walking through

- 1. V35-41 — **Scoffing** Question - **Strong** response, Paul is giving us an analogy of from seed to “body”
- 2. v42-49 — So...”what is sown” look back at v37, from weak bodies to Spirit-empowered bodies!!
  - a) v44b looking back v37 again
  - b) v46 Paul just following the flow of the biblical story
  - c) v49 this certainty is grounded on the basis of the Resurrection!
- 3. v50-58 — the great Enemy of our body & soul separation has been defeated!

C. Romans 5:18 **Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.**

V. Application

A. BODY — Lead in for Walker

1. With the advent of social media/online church etc we are slowly **disconnecting** the body from the functions of the Soul
  - a) Walker looking at community next week
  - b) **Online Church is an exception NOT a norm**
    - (1) Church translates the Greek word for assembly
  - c) **CONFESSION:** I'm too content to have my discipleship relationships to be all digital (text, social media, etc)
    - (1) As body/soul composites God designed us to be king-priests not digitally but in person
      - (a) Now Paul did write letters BUT his longing was to be present in person
2. Romans 12:1 **I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.**
- 3.

B. Soul-“umbrella”

1. We have **categorized and compartmentalized** our immaterial health
  - a) Mental — Emotional — Spiritual etc
2. We need to reorganize them under the category of “soul-health”
  - a) Why?
  - b) Scotty — We are made up of two parts. Body and soul. The two are interconnected, and bond in togetherness. We are infact “embodied souls”, see also 2 Corin. 4:16 (more here: <https://www.ccef.org/psychological-does-not-exist/>) This is in contrast to the body-soul-spirit trichotomists view, or the humanistic view of the physical (body) and non physical (mind) dualism (more here: <https://www.simplypsychology.org/mindbodydebate.html>)
  - c) Scotty — We either derive our answer to this worldview question through secular theoretical psychology (human reasoning) or through biblical theology (Divine revelation).
3. Psalm 19:7 **The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;**
4. Ps 23:1-3
5. Psalm 42:1-2 **As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?**
6. Matthew 11:28-29 **Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**