## BODY, SOUL, AND SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION - (1 Thessalonians 5:23) "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

(Genesis 1:27 and 2:7; Zechariah 12:1; Hebrews 12:9; Ecclesiastes 12:7)

## **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

- 1. BODY (Gr. soma) (W.E. Vine) "the body as a whole; the instrument of life" Jesus was given a body: (John 1:14 and Hebrews 10:5; Phil. 2:7-8)
- 2. SOUL (Gr. psuche) (W.E. Vine) "denotes the breath, the breath of life, then the soul, in its various meanings."
  - 1) Refers to the person or individual: (Acts 2:41 and v43; 1 Peter 3:20)
  - 2) Indicates physical life: (Genesis 1:26 and 2:7; Matthew 11:29)
  - 3) The eternal part of man that survives bodily death: (Matthew 10:28)
- 3. SPIRIT (Gr. pneuma) (W.E. Vine) "primarily denotes wind; also breath; then, especially the spirit." Also used to denote the immortal and eternal part of man.

Many clear references to the "spirit" as that eternal part of us that goes beyond the grave:

Stephen (Acts 7:59); Jesus (Luke 23:46); and (Ecc. 12:7)
Both soul and spirit sometimes refer to the inner man, the eternal part, or that abiding essence that survives bodily death.

Our bodies are "mortal" (Romans 8:11), but the Bible never speaks of our "mortal spirits" nor "mortal souls."

- 4. DEATH (Gr. thanatos) (W.E. Vine) "the separation of the soul (the spiritual part of man) from the body (the material part), the latter ceasing to function and turning to dust; the separation of man from God."
  - Physical death: the body separated from the soul (spirit).
     (Hebrews 9:27; James 2:26; examples of Stephen and Jesus at death)
  - 2) Spiritual death: a living person is separated from God. (Isaiah 59:1-2; Ephesians 2:1; 1 Timothy 5:6)
  - 3) Second death: eternal separation from God (Rev. 20:14-15; 2 Thess. 1:9)

## GOD OF THE LIVING (clarify a few objections to the soul's existence)

- 1. (Ezekiel 18:20) does not reference the "soul" dying; rather, the individual.
- 2. (Matthew 10:28) "destroy" clarified in (Luke 12:4-5) "to cast into"
- 3. (Matthew 22:31-32) "God is not the God of the dead, but of the living"