

2020 Summer Truth Pursuit
God's Complete Salvation

Message 2

God's Creation of Man as a Three-part Vessel

Scripture Reading: Gen. 1:26-27; 2 Tim. 2:20-21; 2 Cor. 4:7; 1 Thes. 5:23; Heb. 4:12; Rom. 2:15; Acts 24:16; 1 Tim. 1:19; 1 John 2:20, 27; 2 Cor. 3:18

I. God's eternal purpose is being fulfilled by dispensing God Himself into man as life; therefore man was created according to God's image as a vessel so that God could enter into him, just as a hand could enter into a glove—Gen. 1:26–27; 2:7–9; John 10:10b; 2 Tim. 2:20–21

Genesis 1:26–27 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. 27 And God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 2:7–9 Jehovah God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. 8 And Jehovah God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there He put the man whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

John 10:10 ...I have come that they may have life and may have it abundantly.

2 Timothy 2:20–21 But in a great house there are not only gold and silver vessels but also wooden and earthen; and some are unto honor, and some unto dishonor. 21 If therefore anyone cleanses himself from these, he will be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, useful to the master, prepared unto every good work.

II. Man is a vessel to contain God – 2 Cor. 4:7

2 Cor. 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.

A. A three-part vessel – 1 Thes. 5:23; Heb. 4:12:

1 Thes. 5:23 And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Heb. 4:12 For the word of God is living and operative and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit and of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

1. The body—our physical part to contact the material world.
2. The soul—our psychological part (which includes our mind, emotion and will) to contact the psychological world.
3. The spirit—our inmost part to contact God – John 4:24.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

B. God implanted “eternity” in man’s heart, which is “a divinely implanted sense of a purpose working through the ages which nothing under the sun, but only God, can satisfy” (Eccl. 3:11—Amplified), thus giving man a desire to seek God.

Eccl. 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its own time; also He has put eternity in their heart, yet so that man does not find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

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C. The three functions of the spirit:

1. Conscience—the function to perceive right from wrong and to condemn or justify – Rom. 2:15; Acts 24:16; 1 Tim. 1:19.

Rom. 2:15 Who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness with it and their reasonings, one with the other, accusing or even excusing them.)

Acts 24:16 Because of this I also exercise myself to always have a conscience without offense toward God and men.

1 Tim. 1:19 Holding faith and a good conscience, concerning which some, thrusting these away, have become shipwrecked regarding the faith.

2. Intuition—the anointing, the direct sense of the Spirit in our spirit regardless of reason, circumstances or background – 1 John 2:20, 27.

1 John 2:20 And you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know.

1 John 2:27 And as for you, the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you; but as His anointing teaches you concerning all things and is true and is not a lie, and even as it has taught you, abide in Him.

3. Fellowship—the function to worship and contact God; our communion with God – John 4:24; 1 John 1:3; 2 Cor. 3:18.

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

2 Cor. 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

4. If we exercise these three functions in our daily life and obey the sense of life and peace within (go in peace—Luke 7:50) we will be walking according to the Spirit in a practical way, thus receiving more dispensing of God Himself as life into us – Rom. 8:4, 6.

Romans 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.

Romans 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.