

# The Breath of Life

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.

— Genesis 2:7

- where our spirit comes from
- how our spirit makes us special
- how our spirit can be divided from our soul

**Our  
Human  
Spirit**

# Where our spirit comes from

“There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made know through Jesus Christ.” – Blaise Pascal

Our human spirit is mysterious. What do you see concerning *your* spirit?

## The Bible emphatically reveals God as the Creator

- In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth. – Genesis 1:1
- Who gives life to the dead and calls things not being as being. – Romans 4:17
- Thus declares Jehovah, who stretches forth the heavens and lays the foundations of the earth and forms the spirit of man within him – Zechariah 12:1

## The Hebrew word *neshamah*, shows us that the Breath of Life is our human spirit

- Jehovah God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath [*neshamah*] of life, and man became a living soul. – Genesis 2:7
- The spirit [*neshamah*] of **man** is the lamp of Jehovah. – Proverbs 20:27
- Most verses in the Old Testament that have the word *spirit* use the Hebrew word *ruach*, which means *spirit, breath, air, or wind*. Some examples are Genesis 1:2, Job 33:4, and Ezekiel 1:12. But a **different** word for man’s spirit, *neshamah*, is used in Proverbs 20:27 and Genesis 2:7.
- This word, *neshamah*, links these two verses together. Therefore, at least one verse in the Old Testament proves that the breath of life in Genesis 2:7 is the spirit of man. Can you see this?

# How our spirit makes us special

We can worship God with our spirit! Praise the Lord!

What else is our spirit good for?

## Humans are special in all God's creation

- In God's creation He mostly spoke things into being, but in His creation of man He used two substances. Genesis 2:7 says that He used the dust to make man's body and His breath of life to form man's spirit. The breath of life is **not** God Himself, God's life, or God's Spirit. But it is **very** close to God, very close to the life of God, and very close to the Spirit of God. - *(The Spirit with Our Spirit, Chapter 6)*

## We are the only creatures with a spirit

- Animals have a life and a soul but not a spirit.
- No animal has ever setup a shrine to worship something.
- The desire and ability to worship God is in our spirit.
- God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness. – John 4:24

# How our spirit can be divided from our soul

When might it be necessary to divide our soul from our spirit?

Looking forward to learning how to do this with you all!

## The New Testament distinguishes between the soul and the spirit

- Many Christians mistakenly confuse the spirit with the soul, thinking they are the same.

### Spirit and soul and body

- 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. – 1 Thessalonians 5:23
- The conjunction *and* in 1 Thessalonians 5:23 was used to indicate that not only our spirit needs to be preserved complete but also a second thing, our soul, and a third thing, our body. Thus, the spirit is different from the soul.

### Dividing of soul and spirit

- 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. – Hebrews 4:12
- Hebrews 4:12 shows us that our soul can be divided from our spirit.
- Seeing that the spirit and soul are different is a key to seeing and experiencing our human spirit and all that God is and has for us!