

The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

The Word, the Soul, and the Spirit

For the word of God is living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12).



There are 3 items in this verse:

1. The word of God.
2. Its affect on the soul.
3. Its affect on the spirit



I. The Word of God

What is the word of God?

It is revelation of God's Hidden Truth

It is truth unveiled.

“Where there is no revelation the people perish.”



Three Kinds of Revelation

General revelation

Special Revelation

The revelation of Christ as
God's Word.



Joins and Marrow

This pictures the priest butchering the animal sacrifice.

Hebrews 4:13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.



II. The Soul

God's word pierces to the division of soul and spirit. The Bible is negative about the soulish person.



Soulish Discernment v. Spiritual Discernment

But the natural [soulish] man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14).



Soulish v. Spiritual

Jude 1:19 These are sensual [soulish] persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.



Earthly, Soulful, Demonic

James 3:14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts . . . This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual [soulful], demonic.

The word of God divides (distinguishes) between what is soulful and what is spiritual . . . “piercing even to the division of soul and spirit.”



III. The Spirit

I see the soul as the understanding
I see the spirit as the subconscious.

“I will pray [both] with the spirit
and also with the understanding”
(1 Corinthians 14).



The Soul = Joints = Thoughts = Understanding

Spirit = Marrow = Intents = The Subconscious



Born of the Spirit

Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God”
(John 3:5-8).

Be filled with the Spirit
(Ephesians 5:18).



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