

Jeff Coleman, 14 August 2022



The Facets of Man

Basic Theology #30

Upcoming Schedule

Basic Theology — Sundays @ 9am

August 14 - The Facets of Man - Jeff C.

August 21 - The Fall of Man - Ian

August 28 - The Biblical Concept of Sin - Jeff C.

September 4 - Christ's Teaching on Sin -

September 11 - The Inheritance of Sin -

September 18 - Personal Sins -

September 25 - The Christian and Sins -

The Whole Person Concept

The Facets of Man

- In man, the material and the immaterial combine to produce a single person.
 - **Ge 2:7** 7 Then Yahweh God formed the man of dust from the ground [body] and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life [soul and spirit], and the man became a living creature.
- Man is an impressive diversity that accentuates the unity of the whole person.
- Every aspect of our nature is fallen but not irredeemable.
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The Facets of Man

Body, Soul, Spirit

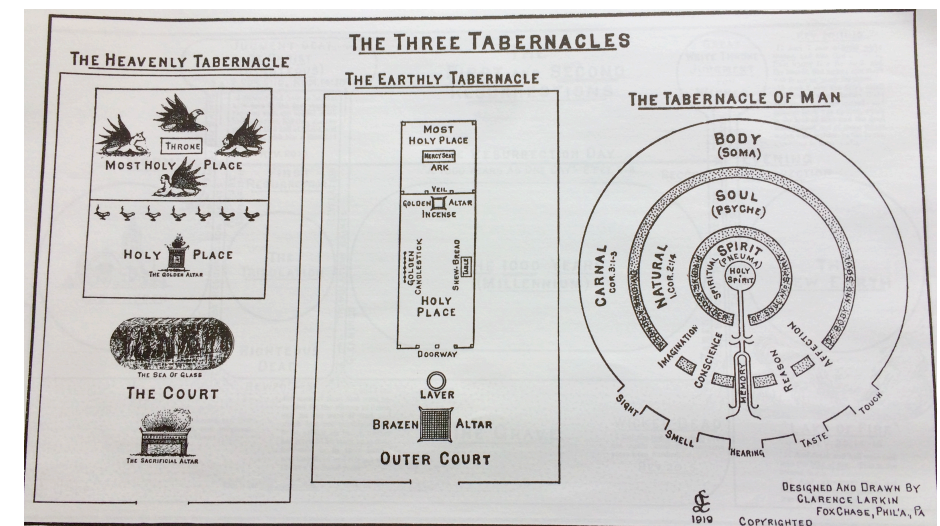
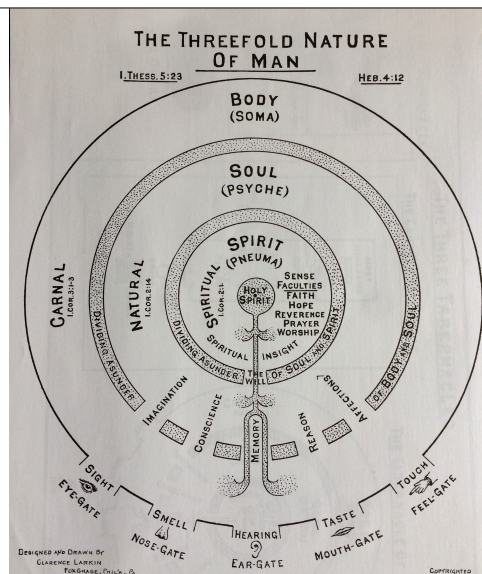
Trichotomy

- Each of us is composed of body, soul, and spirit.
- The spirit is interior to the soul, and the soul is interior to the body.
- Some draw an analogy between the Trinity and these three parts, but this cannot be sustained.
- An analogy, however, can be maintained to the Jewish tabernacle and temple.

The Nature of Man

The Facets of Man

- **1 Th 5:23** 23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole *spirit* (πνεῦμα), *soul* (ψυχή), and *body* (σῶμα) be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Messiah.
- **He 4:12** 12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of *soul* and of *spirit*, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.



Body

The Facets of Man

- Contra Plato, the body is not evil or the “prison house” of the soul.
- We are to be good stewards of our bodies without making idols of them.
 - **3 Jn 2 2** Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.
- Good stewardship of our bodies means: drinking lots of water, eating healthily, exercising regularly, and getting a good nights sleep.

Body

The Facets of Man

- Our body is now a temple of the Holy Spirit.
 - **1 Co 6:19-20** 19 Or do you not know that your *body* is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your *body*.

Body

The Facets of Man

- Our body is not intrinsically evil, but because it is fallen, it must be kept in check.
 - **Ro 7:21-24** 21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?
- **1 Co 9:27** 27 But I discipline my *body* and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Body

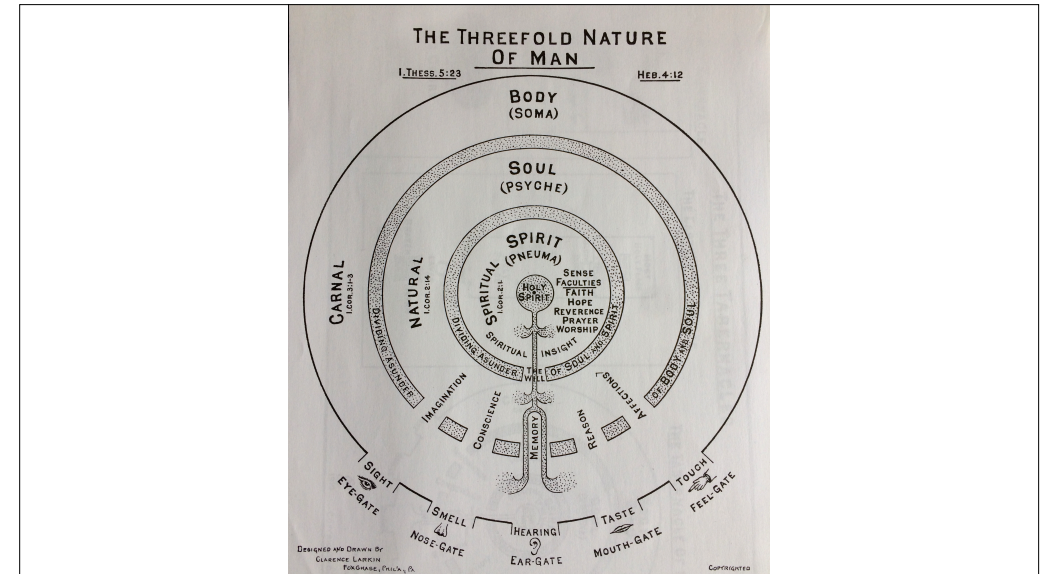
The Facets of Man

- We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God.
 - **Ro 6:13** 13 Do not present your [bodily] members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your [bodily] members to God as instruments for righteousness.
 - **Ro 12:1** 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Physical Death

The Facets of Man

- At physical death, the soul departs the body.
 - **Ge 35:18** 18 And as [Rachel's] soul was departing (for she was dying), she called his name Ben-oni. But his father called him Benjamin.
 - **2 Pe 1:13-14** 13 I think it right, as long as I am in this *body*, to stir you up by way of reminder, 14 because I know that the putting off of my *body* will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Messiah made clear to me.
- Physical death is not cessation of existence but the temporary separation of man's soul and spirit from his body.
 - **Ja 2:26** 26 For as the *body* apart from the *spirit* is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.



Flesh

The Facets of Man

- Flesh is sometimes a neutral term signifying physical existence.
 - **Jn 1:14** 14 And the Word became *flesh* and dwelt among us.....
 - **Jn 3:6** 6 That which is born of the *flesh* is *flesh*, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
 - **1 Co 15:39** 39 For not all *flesh* is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish.
 - **He 5:7** 7 In the days of his *flesh*, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications....

Flesh

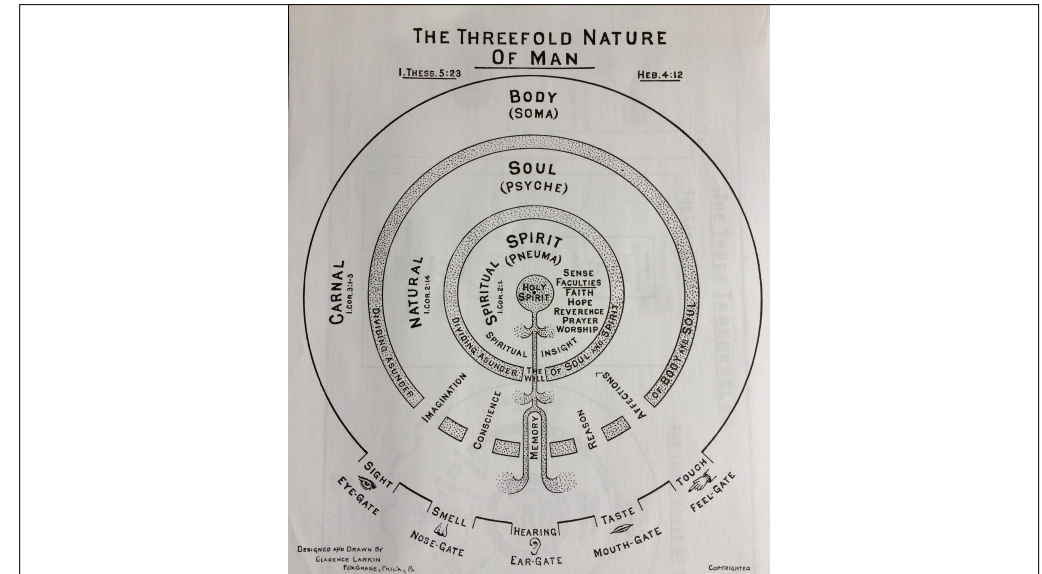
The Facets of Man

- But most often “flesh” signifies man's sinful independent nature.
 - **Jn 6:63** 63 It is the Spirit who gives life. The *flesh* is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.
 - **Ro 7:14-15** 14 ...We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the *flesh*, sold under sin. 15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

Flesh versus Spirit

The Facets of Man

- Only through the Spirit can we overcome the flesh.
- **Ro 8:3-9** 3 ...God has done what the Torah, weakened by the *flesh*, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful *flesh* and for sin, he condemned sin in the *flesh*, 4 in order that the righteous requirement of the Torah might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the *flesh* but according to the Spirit.
- **Ga 5:16** 16 Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the *flesh*.
- **1 Pe 2:11** 11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the *flesh*, which wage war against your soul.



Soul

The Facets of Man

- The Hebrew word *nephesh* means “life” and designates man as a living being.
- **Ge 2:7** 7 Yahweh God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living soul (נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה).
- Animals, too, are living souls. But the human soul is far different from the animal soul.
- **Ge 1:20-21** 20 And God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures (נֶפֶשׁ הַחַיָּה), and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens. 21 So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature (נֶפֶשׁ הַחַיָּה) that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind.
- **Ge 1:24** 24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth living creatures (נֶפֶשׁ הַחַיָּה) according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.

Soul

The Facets of Man

- The term “soul” often designates the whole person.
- We *have* a body and spirit, but we *are* a soul. Our soul is our very self.
- **Ge 46:26-27** 26 All the souls (נֶפֶשׁ) belonging to Jacob who came into Egypt, who were his own descendants, not including Jacob’s sons’ wives, were sixty-six souls (נֶפֶשׁ) in all. 27 And the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt, were two. All the souls (נֶפֶשׁ) of the house of Jacob who came into Egypt were seventy.

Soul

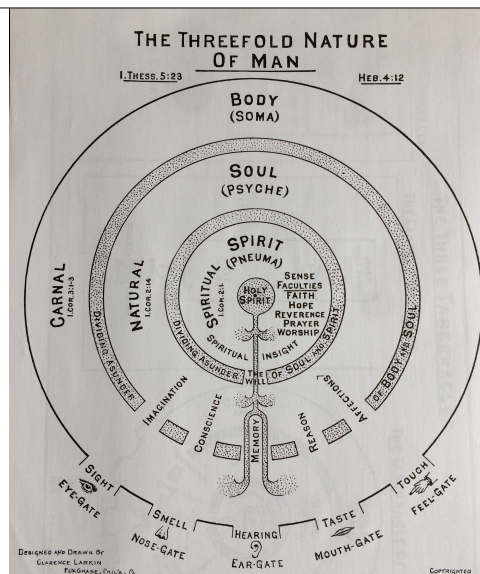
The Facets of Man

- Our soul is the most valuable thing we possess.
- **Mt 16:26** 26 What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul (ψυχή)? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul (ψυχή)?
- Our soul is the battleground of flesh and spirit, belief and unbelief.
- Our soul contains our mind, emotion, will, conscience, and heart.

Soul

The Facets of Man

- Jesus gave his soul as a ransom for us.
- **Is 53:10-12** 10 It was the desire of Yahweh to crush [his Servant]. He has put him to grief. When his soul (נַפְשׁוֹ) makes an offering for guilt, he will see his seed. He will prolong his days. The desire of Yahweh will prosper in his hand. 11 Out of the anguish of his soul (נַפְשׁוֹ) he will see and be satisfied. By his knowledge will the righteous one, my Servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul (נַפְשׁוֹ) to death and was numbered with the transgressors. Yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.
- **Mt 20:28** 28 The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his soul (ψυχή) as a ransom for many.
- **Jn 10:11** 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his soul (ψυχή) for the sheep.
- **1 Jn 3:16** 16 By this we know love, that he laid down his soul (ψυχή) for us.



Mind

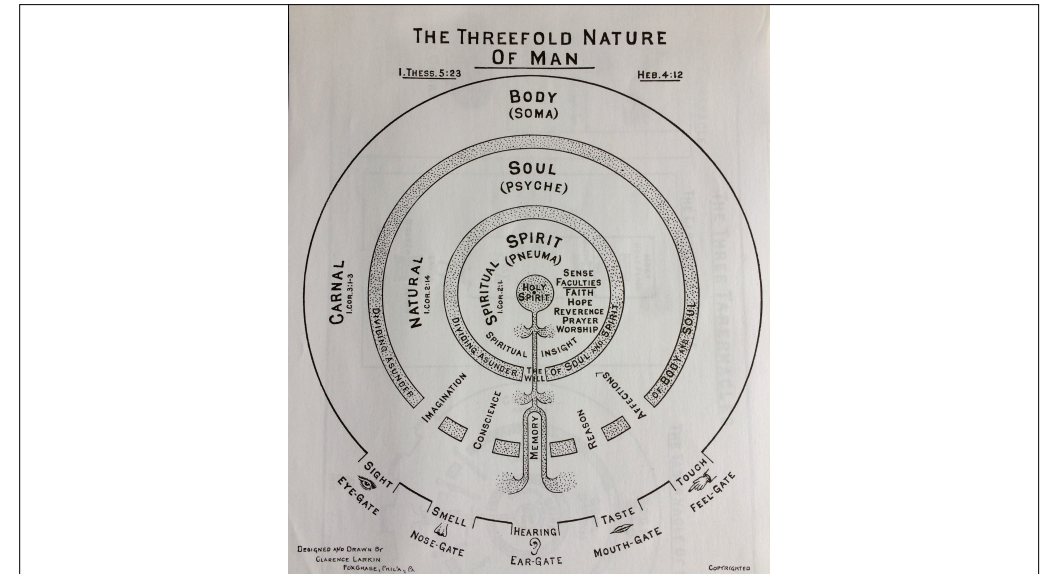
The Facets of Man

- The mind is the reasoning, thinking, and understanding centre of the soul.
- As unbelievers, our minds are blind, debased, and empty.
- **Ro 1:28** 28 Because they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind (νοῦς) to do what ought not to be done.
- **2 Co 4:4** 4 The god of this world has blinded the minds (νόημα) of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Messiah, who is the image of God.
- **Eph 4:17-18** 17 Walk no longer just as the Gentiles [unbelievers] also walk, in the emptiness (ματαιότης) of their mind (νοῦς), 18 being darkened in their understanding (διάνοια), excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance (ἄγνοια) that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart.

Mind

The Facets of Man

- As believers, we are to love God with all our *mind*.
- **Mt 22:37** 37 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your *mind*.
- **Ro 12:2** 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your *mind* (νοῦς), that by testing you may discern what is the desire of God, what is good, acceptable, and perfect.
- **2 Co 10:5** 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought (νόημα) captive to the obedience of Messiah.
- **Eph 4:23** 23 Be renewed in the spirit (πνεῦμα) of your *mind* (νοῦς).



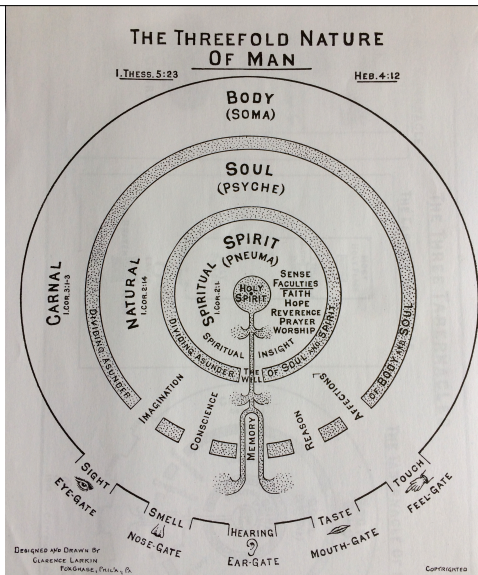
Emotion

The Facets of Man

- Emotion is the response centre of the soul and is closely connected with the body.
- Emotion does not equal the heart.
- Emotion always follows and responds to what is in the mind and heart.
- **Ps 119:136** 136 My eyes shed streams of water, because they do not keep Your law.
- When not controlled by the heart and mind, emotion can be destructive.



“Three went for a walk on a wall: feeling, faith, and fact. Feeling took a bad fall, and faith was taken back. Faith walked so close to feeling that he fell too. But fact remained, and pulled faith up, and faith brought feeling too.”



Conscience

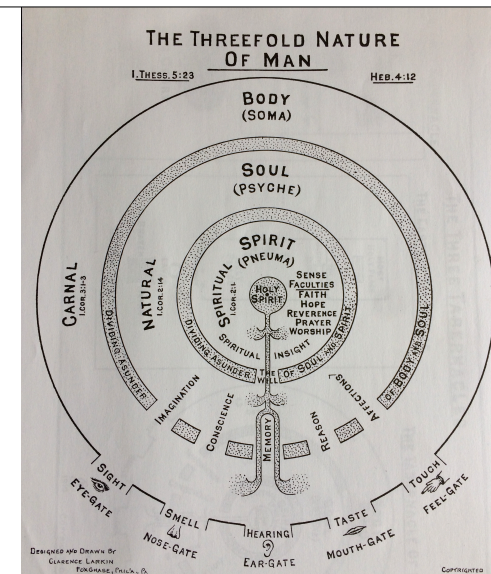
The Facets of Man

- Conscience is the moral evaluation centre of the soul.
- **Ac 24:16** 16 I [Paul] always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.
- **Ro 2:15** 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their *conscience* also testifies, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them.
- **2 Co 1:12** 12 Our boast is this, the testimony of our *conscience*, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity....

Conscience

The Facets of Man

- As unbelievers, our conscience is fallen and corrupted.
- As believers, we are to renew our conscience by conforming our standards to God's word.



Heart

The Facets of Man

- The heart is the command centre of the soul, the place of a person's innermost thought life.
- It oversees:
 - Mind: the thinking centre of the soul
 - Emotion: the response centre of the soul
 - Conscience: the moral evaluation centre of the soul

Heart

The Facets of Man

- “Our heart is the place where our mind, emotions, will, and personality all merge together to chart the steering wheel of our lives. It is the center of who we are and the disposition from which we function.” - Charles Price
- “Worldviews are, indeed, a matter of the heart. This notion would be easier to grasp if the word heart bore in today's world the weight it bears in Scripture. The biblical concept includes the notions of wisdom (Pr 2:10), emotion (Ex 4:14; Jn 14:1), desire and will (1 Ch 29:18), spirituality (Acts 8:21) and intellect (Rom 1:21). In short, and in biblical terms, the heart is ‘the central defining element of the human person.’ A worldview, view, therefore, is situated in the self-the central operating chamber of every human being. It is from this heart that all one's thoughts and actions proceed.” - James W. Sire

Heart

The Facets of Man

- **Ge 6:5** 5 Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention (יֵצֵר) of the thoughts (מַחְשְׁבָה) of his *heart* (לֵב) was only evil continually. 6 And Yahweh regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his *heart* (לֵב).
- **Dt 6:5-6** 5 You shall love (אהב) Yahweh your God with all your *heart* (לֵב), with all your soul (נַפְשׁ), and with all your might (מֶאֶד). 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your *heart* (לֵב).

Heart

The Facets of Man

- **1 Sa 1:13** 13 Hannah was speaking in her *heart* (לֵב). Only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman.
- **1 Ch 22:19** 19 Now set your *heart* (לֵב) and soul (נַפְשׁ) to seek Yahweh your God. Arise and build the sanctuary of Yahweh God....
- **Ps 7:9** 9 Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and may you establish the righteous—you who test the *hearts* (לֵב) and kidneys (כִּלְיֹה), O righteous God!

Heart

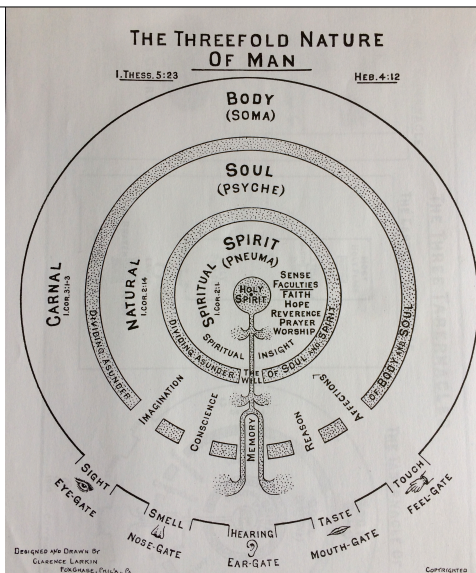
The Facets of Man

- **Ps 64:6** 6 The inward mind and *heart* (לֵב) of a man are deep.
- **Pr 4:23** 23 Keep your *heart* (לֵב) with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.
- **Pr 27:19** 19 As in water face reflects face, So the *heart* (לֵב) of man reflects man.
- **Jeremiah 17:9-10** 9 The *heart* (לֵב) is deceitful above all things and desperately sick. Who can understand it? 10 I, Yahweh, search the *heart* (לֵב) and test the kidneys (כִּלְיֹת), to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.

Heart

The Facets of Man

- **Eze 36:26** 26 And I will give you a new *heart* (לֵב), and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the *heart* (לֵב) of stone from your flesh and give you a *heart* (לֵב) of flesh.
- **Mt 5:8** 8 Blessed are the pure in *heart* (καρδία), for they shall see God.
- **Mt 15:17-20** 17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the *heart*, and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the *heart* come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person.



Spirit

The Facets of Man

- The spirit is the connection point or interface between our heart and soul and God the Holy Spirit.
- **Jn 4:23-24** 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in *spirit* (πνεῦμα) and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is *spirit* (πνεῦμα), and those who worship him must worship in *spirit* (πνεῦμα) and truth.
- **Ro 8:16** 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our *spirit* (πνεῦμα) that we are children of God....

Spirit

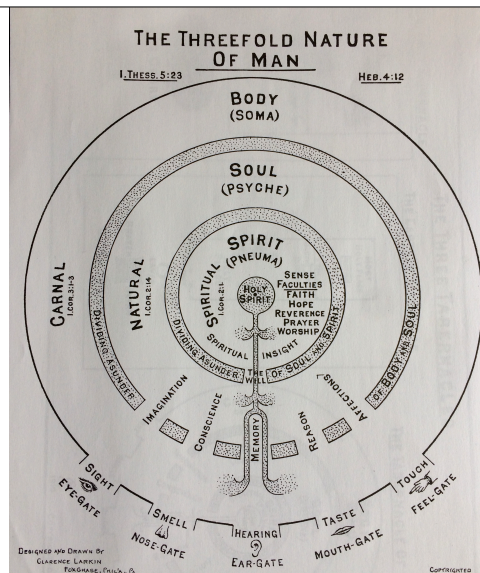
The Facets of Man

- The unbeliever's spirit is dormant and inoperative until he or she believes.
- **1 Co 2:11-14** 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the *spirit* (πνεῦμα) of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the *Spirit* (πνεῦμα) who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

Spirit

The Facets of Man

- The "spiritual" believer is able to operate by the power of the Holy Spirit. The "fleshly" believer is not.
- **Ga 6:1** 1 Brothers and sisters, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual (ὑμεῖς οἱ πνευματικοὶ) should restore him in a *spirit* (πνεῦμα) of gentleness.
- Spirituality is regained through confession of sin.
- **1 Jn 1:8-9** 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



Questions?