

THE SOUL!

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NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the King James Version; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this Study Document.

- In the beginning our Creator formed the first man from the dust of the ground and then breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and then the first man Adam **became** a living soul.
Genesis 2:7: - “And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; **and man became a living soul.**”

1 Corinthians 15:45: - “And so it is written, **The first man Adam was made a living soul**; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit.”

We must understand this simple but foundational Biblical truth, that God has made us **this soul**, and that the life or soul of every living creature, both of man and beast is within God’s power, and he can take away our souls any time at his discretion.

Isaiah 57:15 & 16: - “**For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name [is] Holy**; I dwell in the high and holy [place], with him also [that is] of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. For I will not contend for ever, neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before me, **and the souls [which] I have made.**”

NOTE: - In this passage we have the contrast between our God who dwells in eternity, and weak, mortal human beings, the souls whom the Lord has made.

Jeremiah 38:16: - “So Zedekiah the king sware secretly unto Jeremiah, saying, **[As] the LORD liveth, that made us this soul**, I will not put thee to death, neither will I give thee into the hand of these men that seek thy life.”

Job 12:9 & 10: - “Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of **the LORD** hath wrought this? **In whose hand is the *soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.**”

NOTE: - * The margin has “Or, life”.

Job 27:8: - “For what [is] the hope of the hypocrite, though he hath gained, **when God taketh away his soul?**”

THE SOUL CAN UNDERGO THE COMMON EXPERIENCES OF EVERY DAY LIFE: -

- Throughout the Scriptures souls are portrayed as experiencing the common every day experiences of life that all humanity endure.
For example: -

Souls can suffer hunger.

Proverbs 19:15: - “Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; **and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.**”

The soul can eat.

Leviticus 7:20: - “But **the soul that eateth [of] the flesh** of the sacrifice of peace offerings, that [pertain] unto the LORD, having his uncleanness upon him, even that soul shall be cut off from his people.”

Food can satisfy the hungry soul.

Proverbs 6:30: - “[Men] do not despise a thief, if he steal **to satisfy his soul when he is hungry.**”

The soul can get thirsty.

Proverbs 25:25: - “[As] **cold waters to a thirsty soul**, so [is] good news from a far country.”

The soul can be hunted.

1 Samuel 24:11: - “Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that [there is] neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; **yet thou huntest my soul to take it.**”

The soul can be torn in pieces.

Psalms 7:1 & 2: - “O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me: **Let he tear my soul like a lion, rending [it] in pieces**, while [there is] none to deliver.”

The soul can touch things.

Leviticus 5:2: - “**Or if a soul touch any unclean thing**, whether [it be] a carcase of an unclean beast, or a carcase of unclean cattle, or the carcase of unclean creeping things, and [if] it be hidden from him; he also shall be unclean, and guilty.”

The soul can be touched.

Numbers 19:11: - “He that toucheth the dead body of any ***man** shall be unclean seven days.”

NOTE: - * The margin has based upon the Hebrew “*soul of man*”.

The soul can be afflicted.

Leviticus 16:31: - “It [shall be] a sabbath of rest unto you, **and ye shall afflict your souls**, by a statute for ever.”

A soul can break God’s Commandments.

Numbers 15:30 & 31: - “But **the soul that doeth [ought] presumptuously**, [whether he be] born in the land, or a stranger, the same reproacheth the LORD; **and that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Because he hath despised the word of the LORD, and hath broken his commandment, that soul shall utterly be cut off**; his iniquity [shall be] upon him.”

A soul can experience great sorrow, as was the case of our Lord himself in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Mark 14:34: - “And saith unto them, **My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death**: tarry ye here, and watch.”



If the soul can be hungry, thirsty, torn in pieces, if it can touch things or be touched, if it can be afflicted or break God’s Commandments, or experience sorrow, it cannot be an immaterial, intangible thing, as popular tradition would have us believe.

A PERSON IS A SOUL: -

- In the following Scriptures we see that a person is in fact **A** soul.

The king of Sodom only asked Abraham for the persons or souls released from captivity to be restored to him.

Genesis 14:21: - “And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, **Give me the *persons**, and take the goods to thyself.”

NOTE - * The margin has based upon the Hebrew the word “*souls*”.

All the sons and daughters who descended from Leah Jacob’s first wife were 33 souls. In other words, 33 persons descended from Leah.

Genesis 46:8 - 15: - “And these [are] the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob’s firstborn. And the sons of Reuben; Hanoch, and Phallu, and Hezron, and Carmi. And the

sons of Simeon; Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman. And the sons of Levi; Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. And the sons of Judah; Er, and Onan, and Shelah, and Pharez, and Zarah: but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Pharez were Hezron and Hamul. And the sons of Issachar; Tola, and Phuvah, and Job, and Shimron. And the sons of Zebulun; Sered, and Elon, and Jahleel. **These [be] the sons of Leah, which she bare unto Jacob in Padanaram, with his daughter Dinah: all the souls of his sons and his daughters [were] thirty and three.**"

On the Day of Pentecost the Lord added unto the church about 3, 000 souls or persons.

Acts 2:41: - "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: **and the same day there were added [unto them] about three thousand souls.**"

When Joseph was the Governor of the land of Egypt, he called his father Jacob and his entire household to come to Egypt and to be maintained by him during the famine. These totalled 75 souls or persons.

Acts 7:14: - "Then sent Joseph, and called his father Jacob to [him], and all his kindred, **threescore and fifteen souls.**"

Eight souls or persons were saved in Noah's Ark from the floodwaters.

1 Peter 3:20: - "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, **eight souls were saved by water.**"

THE SOUL CAN DIE AND BE DESTROYED; THEREFORE IT CANNOT BE IMMORTAL: -

- Leviticus 23:30: - "And whatsoever soul [it be] that doeth any work in that same day, **the same soul will I destroy from among his people.**"

Numbers 23:10: - "Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth [part] of Israel? **Let *me die the death of the righteous,** and let my last end be like his!"

NB: - * The margin has based upon the Hebrew the words "**my soul**", or "**my life**", thus reading as: - "**Let my soul die the death of the righteous**".

Joshua 10:28 - 30: - "And that day Joshua took Makkedah, **and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof he utterly destroyed, them, and all the souls that [were] therein;** he let none remain: and he did unto the king of Makkedah as he did unto the king of Jericho. Then Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, unto Libnah, and fought against Libnah: And the LORD delivered it also, and the king thereof, into the hand of Israel; **and he smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that [were] therein; he let none remain in it;** but did unto the king thereof as he did unto the king of Jericho."

Joshua 10:34 & 35: - "And from Lachish Joshua passed unto Eglon, and all Israel with him; and they encamped against it, and fought against it: **And they took it on that day, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that [were] therein he utterly destroyed that day,** according to all that he had done to Lachish."

Joshua 10:36 & 37: - "And Joshua went up from Eglon, and all Israel with him, unto Hebron; and they fought against it: And they took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof, **and all the souls that [were] therein; he left none remaining, according to all that he had done to Eglon; but destroyed it utterly, and all the souls that [were] therein.**"

Joshua 10:38 & 39: - "And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to Debir; and fought against it: And he took it, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof; and they smote them with the edge of the sword, **and utterly destroyed all the souls that [were] therein; he left none remaining:** as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir, and to the king thereof; as he had done also to Libnah, and to her king."

Joshua 11:10 & 11: - “And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms. **And they smote all the souls that [were] therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying [them]: there was not any left to breathe:** and he burnt Hazor with fire.”

Judges 16:30: - “And Samson said, **Let *me die with the Philistines.** And he bowed himself with [all his] might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that [were] therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than [they] which he slew in his life.”

NOTE: - * The margin has based upon the Hebrew the words “*my soul*”, thus reading: - “**And Samson said, Let my soul die with the Philistines.**”

Job 36:13 & 14: - “But the hypocrites in heart heap up wrath: they cry not when he bindeth them. **They *die in youth,** and their life [is] among the unclean.”

NOTE: - * The margin has based upon the Hebrew the words “*Their soul dieth*”.

Proverbs 6:32: - “[But] whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: **he [that] doeth it destroyeth his own soul.**”

Ezekiel 18:4 & 20: - “**Behold, all souls are mine;** as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: **the soul that sinneth, it shall die. ... The soul that sinneth, it shall die.** The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”

NOTE: - In V.S. 4 we find it clearly taught that all souls belong to God. Therefore, we are totally dependent upon him for our existence.

Ezekiel 22:27: - “Her princes in the midst thereof [are] like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, **[and] to destroy souls,** to get dishonest gain.”

Matthew 10:28: - “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: **but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**”

Acts 3:23: - “And it shall come to pass, **[that] every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.**”

James 5:20: - “Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way **shall save a soul from death,** and shall hide a multitude of sins.”

- The soul can draw near to the grave.

Job 33:22: - “Yea, **his soul draweth near unto the grave,** and his life to the destroyers.”

Psalms 30:3: - “**O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave:** thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.”

The Lord is the One who can deliver a soul from death. The following Scriptures from the pen of the Psalmist reinforce the truth that a soul can indeed experience death – hence it **CANNOT** be immortal.

Psalms 33:18 & 19: - “Behold, the eye of the LORD [is] upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; **To deliver their soul from death,** and to keep them alive in famine.”

Psalms 56:13: - **“For thou hast delivered my soul from death:** [wilt] not [thou deliver] my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living?”

Psalms 78:50: - “He made a way to his anger; **he spared not their soul from death**, but gave their life over to the pestilence.”

Psalms 116:8: - **“For thou hast delivered my soul from death**, mine eyes from tears, [and] my feet from falling.”

- No human being has the power to keep alive his own soul.

Psalms 22:29: - “All [they that be] fat upon earth shall eat and worship: all they that go down to the dust shall bow before him: **and none can keep alive his own soul.**”

No human being has the power to deliver his soul from the hand or power of the grave.

Psalms 89:48: - “What man [is he that] liveth, and shall not see death? **shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?** Selah.

The only One who can deliver us from the hand or power of the grave is God.

Psalms 49:14 & 15: - “Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling. **But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave:** for he shall receive me. Selah.”

Hosea 13:14: - **“I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death:** O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.”



Therefore we can safely conclude that the soul of mankind is **NOT** immortal or self-existing as is popularly believed, as God created us as living souls, and he alone has the power over all souls, and only he can deliver our souls from the power of the grave. In fact, **NOWHERE** in the Bible do we find the expressions **“eternal soul”**, or **“everlasting soul”**, or **“never dying soul”**. The Bible makes it plain that

THE ETERNAL GOD ONLY HAS IMMORTALITY: -

- Inherent immortality is only applied in the Scriptures to God, and **NOT** to mankind. He is called **“the everlasting God”**, **“the eternal God”**.

Genesis 21:33: - “And [Abraham] planted a grove in Beersheba, **and called there on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God.**”

Isaiah 40:28: - “Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, **[that] the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth**, fainteth not, neither is weary? [there is] no searching of his understanding.”

Romans 16:26: - “But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of **the everlasting God**, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith.”

Deuteronomy 33:27: - **“The eternal God** [is thy] refuge, and underneath [are] the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy [them].”

Isaiah 57:15: - **“For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name [is] Holy;** I dwell in the high and holy [place], with him also [that is] of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.”

1 Timothy 1:17: - **“Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, [be] honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.”**

1 Timothy 6:14 - 16: - **“That thou keep [this] commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall show, [who is] the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom [be] honour and power everlasting. Amen.”**

**OUR LIFE – OUR SOUL IS DEPENDENT UPON OUR CREATOR GOD FOR OUR EXISTENCE.
LET US NEVER FORGET THAT!**

Acts 17:28: - **“For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.”**