

SOUL STEWARDSHIP



Human Tripartite Beings

Spirit

- Wisdom
- Communion (sharing or exchanging intimate thoughts & feelings, the joining together of souls and spirits)
- Conscience (motivation derived from ethical or moral principles that govern a person's thoughts and actions)



Our SPIRIT makes us AWARE of GOD

Soul

- Mind (intellect, not the brain)
- Will (free from God's influence)
- Emotions



Our SOUL makes us AWARE of SELF

Self-centeredness produces evil, but selflessness produces good.

Body

- Flesh
- Blood
- Bone



Our BODY makes us AWARE of our WORLD Five Senses of touch, smell, sight, taste and hearing

HOW DO WE STEWARD OUR SOUL?

1. Sanctification

We need to sanctify our souls. Sanctification means to be set apart, holy, consecrated. This is a choice we have to make. When we're born again, our spirit is made a new creation in Christ, but our soul is the same as it was before being born again. We must choose to bring it under the Lordship of Christ.

1 Peter 2:11 (NASB)

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which **wage war against the soul**.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV)

Paul says: May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole **spirit, soul and body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The Word of God

Hebrews 4:12 (NASB)

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

The word of God divides (distinguishes) between soul and spirit. It brings revelation, clarity. It brings insight and understanding. It provides opportunity for us to bring our soul into alignment with God's will.

It is so important for us as believers to take in the word of God on a regular basis.

3. Discerning Thoughts / Voices

Not every thought or voice in your head is your own. It can originate from one of three sources. It can come **from God** (often through an angel), it can be **from your own soul**, and it can be **from the enemy**.

Learn to discern what the source of that voice is.

It's not just about having good thoughts, but it's about Godly thought patterns... the way we think needs to be God centered, not man centered. This is true repentance, to change the way we think.



4. Breaking Ungodly Soul Ties



Healthy Soul Tie

A soul tie is two souls being "knit" together.

1 Samuel 18:1 (ESV)

As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

Unhealthy Soul Tie

Unhealthy soul ties can lead to demonic influence. These are some possible entry points:

- **Sex outside the covenant** of marriage, or **sexual violation**.
- **Manipulation or domination** of family members, marriage partners, etc.
- Emotional/psychological or physical **abuse**.
- **Rejection or abandonment**.
- **Idolatry** - looking to a person to be something that **a)** only the Lord could be to us or **b)** our covenant spouse. This would be a codependent relationship (excessive emotional or psychological dependence on another person).

Repentance and **forgiveness** are needed to break the legal right of the ungodly soul tie. This takes away the right of the enemy. Then command the soul tie to be broken and every evil thing to leave.

Soul Health Often Determines Physical Health

Physical illness is often related to the condition of one's soul.

3 John 1:2 (NASB)

Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

Proverbs 17:22 (ESV)

A joyful (happy, merry) heart is good medicine, but a crushed (broken) spirit dries up the bones.

Proverbs 15:13 (ESV)

A glad heart makes a cheerful face (countenance), but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed (broken).

5. Guard Our Hearts and Tongues

Israel is an example for us — First the Lord had to deliver Israel out of Egypt. Then He had to deliver Egypt out of Israel. First the Lord brings us out of darkness, then He works on getting any darkness out of us.

God had Israel address their souls, steward their souls, and then had them remember what He did before entering into the promised land.

Deuteronomy 7:17–18 (ESV) (expressing fear)

“If you **say in your heart**, ‘These nations are greater than I. How can I dispossess them?’ you shall not be afraid of them but you shall **remember** what the Lord your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt,

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (ESV) (expressing pride)

Beware lest you **say in your heart**, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ You shall **remember** the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Other passage addressing the heart/soul are Deuteronomy 4:39, 6:6, 9:4-7

REMEMBRANCE

Each example in Duet 7-9, the Lord follows the warnings about guarding what they say in their hearts/souls to then remember what the Lord has done and who He is!

Remembrance is a crucial part of what Israel was taught to do. Often some sort of structure was put up as a reminder of what the Lord has done in an area. In our Western culture, we've lost the significance of how important it is to remember the very personal encounters, breakthroughs, expressions of love that our Lord gives us.

While facing Goliath, David remembered the Lord giving him victory over the lion and the bear.

COMMUNION

Jesus asked us to do this act of communion in remembrance of Him. Let's take some time, while the elements are being passed out, to remember things the Lord has done for us, encounters that we've had with Him, answers to prayer and breakthroughs that He's given us. And put that in light of your current needs and concerns.

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2. The Word of God
3. Discerning Thoughts / Voices
4. Breaking Ungodly Soul Ties
5. Guarding Hearts and Tongues

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