Q1. When God made man, what elements did He combine?

Genesis 2:7 "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breadth of life; and man became a living soul."

Answer:- When God created man, he combined the body (physical) and the spirit (spiritual). Here, the word "dust" also refers to the body of man. The "breadth of life" does not only connote the air that was breathed into Adam but it also connotes that which we often refer to as the spirit. This means that man becomes a living being when his body unites with his spirit.

Q2. Are there any other verses that declare emphatically that man has a spirit within him?

Job 32:8 "But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding."

Zechariah 12:1 "The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him."

Q3. What are the attributes that are inclusive of the spirit that is within us?

Answer: Man's spirit is a collection of a number of attributes of the human psyche. Firstly, it is man's identity. This means that it is not the body that makes me, me and you, you but rather, it is the spirit that is in each and every individual.

Hebrews 10:5 "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared for me."

Explanation:- This verse is in reference to the human incarnation of Jesus. Jesus is the One who spoke the above words to God the Father. We understand from this verse that Jesus was in a divine body prior to His incarnation. But what made that Baby that was born in Bethlehem to be the true Son of God from everlasting, is the spirit that was in that body, the Spirit of Christ Himself that had always existed before He took upon humanity. Even though He has now put upon Himself the human flesh, He still remains the same yesterday, today and forever more. (Hebrews 13:8)

Secondly, the spirit is also the feelings and emotions of man.

Daniel 2:1 "... Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him."

Explanation:- Here also we find that it was the spirit of Nebuchadnezzar that was troubled. It is logical to conclude that it is the king of Babylon himself who is troubled. The Bible says that it is the spirit that is troubled. From this we can say that the spirit is inclusive of the emotions and feelings of an individual.

Thirdly, the spirit refers to the thoughts which can also be tied to an individual's memories.

1 Corinthians 2:11 "For what man knoweth the things of man, save the spirit of man which is in him? ..."

Explanation:- No one knows what goes on in one's mind if one does not choose to reveal the same to others. These thoughts are part of the spirit of man which the above passage in 1 Corinthians talks about.

Fourthly, the spirit is the character of a person.

Luk3 6:45 "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."

Markos 7:21,22 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceeded evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness."

Explanation:- In both theses passages, Jesus says that our character, whether good or bad, is in our hearts which are manifested through our words and actions. The words "heart" and "spirit" are one and the same thing. We know this because the Psalmist equates his heart to his spirit. He also uses this style of writing when he says that the Holy Spirit is God's very own presence. (Psalm 51:11)

Psalm 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Fifthly, the spirit is also man's wisdom and understanding.

Psalm 139:14 "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."

To sum it up, man's spirit refers to all the non-physical, non-tangible elements of his being. It is also an energy that gives life to the entire body.

Q4. What does the physical body constitute and what role does it play in the make up of man as a living being?

Jakob 2:26 "... the body without the spirit is dead."

Explanation:- As mentioned earlier in the first section of this study, the amalgamation of the body and spirit makes a living being, so as per the understanding derived from the worlds of James, the body simply plays the role of a vessel that activates and sustains the energy that resides in the spirit that God has placed in each one of us. So when the spirit leaves the body, the body can no longer continue to be alive since it is the spirit that gives life to it. This phenomenon is similar to the working principle of a battery in a torch. The battery acts like the spirit that activates the function of the wires and the bulb

that are inbuilt in the torch. The torch without the battery, on the other hand, is like a dead body that is devoid of the spirit.

Q5. So, what happens to the spirit when it leaves the body?

Answer:- The body returns to the dust and the spirit goes up to God who gave it. And while it is with Him, it is being preserved for the day of resurrection of the dead. In this sense, we can say that the people go to heaven when they die.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return to God who gave it."

Q6. Does the spirit continue to be in a conscious state after it leaves the body?

Answer:- No, the spirit does not continue to be in a state of consciousness and its attributes that we had just briefly discussed in question number 3 can no longer function. This means that identity, wisdom, thoughts, memories, feelings and emotions all lie dormant when the spirit no longer have a body in which to dwell. Because of this reason, the dead no longer take part in the affairs of this world.

Ecclesiastes 9:5,6 "For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they anymore a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. (6) Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in anything that is done under the sun."

Q7. In that case, can we safely conclude that a dead person can feel or see?

Answer:- From the verses and the explanation that we have discussed to this very point, we can say that since it is spirit, not the body, that makes me, me and you, you, so when we die, we do not exist in a conscious state and we are truly dead and there is no part of our being that continues to exits in a living state to take part in the affairs of this world's society.

Isaiah 38:18,19 "For the grave cannot praise thee, death cannot celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth."

Psalms 146:4 "His breadth goes forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."

Psalms 6:4,5 "Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake. For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?"

Explanation:- The three verses that we have just quoted contradict the popular belief that the dead praise and worship

God in heaven. This understanding is false and there is no evidence in the Bible to support it.

I am confident that through this sharing of truth from God's word, you have gained some insight into the truth concerning the state of the dead. If you are interested to receive more clarification on this subject, please feel free to reach us through the phone numbers that have been provided in this pamphlet. We hope that this pamphlet would prove to be a blessing to you and we hope to hear from you.

For the glory of God and His Son, Amen!

Christ In You Ministries, Meghalaya, Shillong -793006

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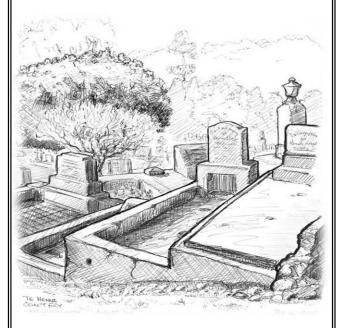
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STATE OF THE DEAD



1 Corinthians 15:55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory?

This tract is a study on the subject of the dead and explains what happens when man ceases to live.

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