

A close-up photograph of a car tire tread on asphalt. The tire is dark and shows a pattern of horizontal and vertical grooves. The asphalt is grey and textured. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

Sanctification:

Where the Rubber Meets the Road
on our Salvation Journey

Sanctification

- Our Pentecost / Sanctification experience is the path of progression between justification and glorification on our salvation Journey
- **1 Thessalonians 5:23** And the very God of peace **sanctify you wholly**; and / pray God your whole **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved blameless (G274, *amemptos*) unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - “Blameless” is from *Gr. “Amemptos”* meaning “preserved from judgment”

Paul is praying for the salvation of our spirit, soul and Body

- hmmm does this line up with our threefold salvation plan?



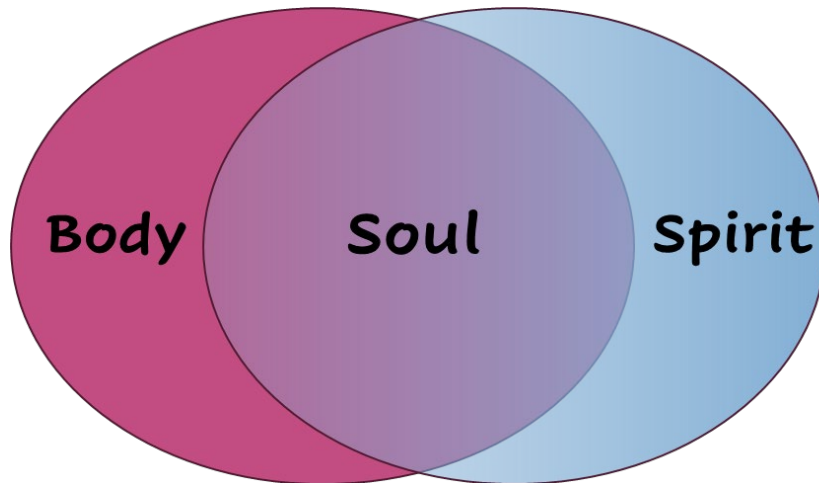
Tabernacles /
Glorification

Pentecost / Sanctification

**Passover /
Justification**

Creation of Man

- **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.

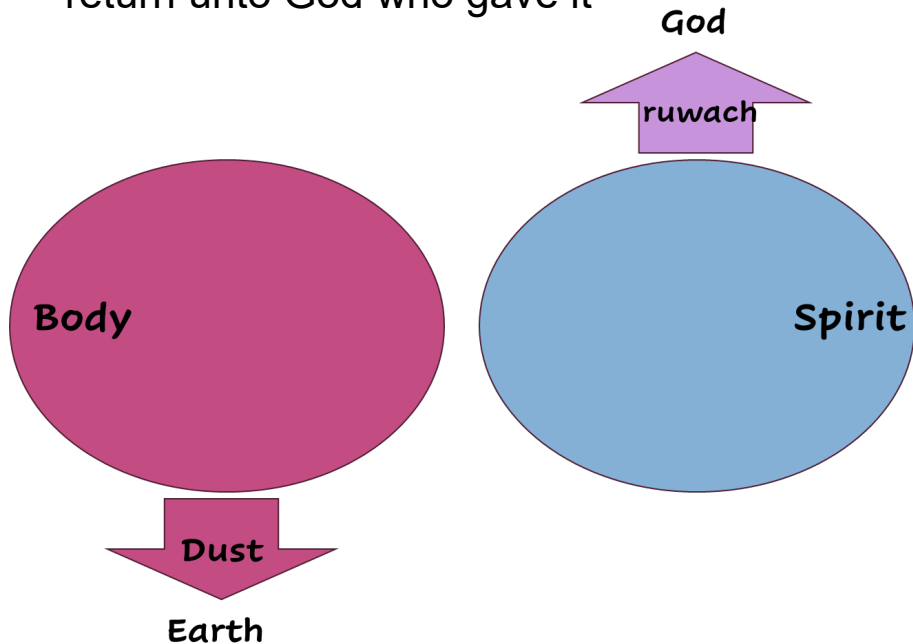


Dust (Body) + Breath of life (Spirit) = Living Soul

When Man Dies

- **Ecclesiastes 12:7**

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the **spirit (Heb. ruwach)** shall return unto God who gave it



- **Psalm 146:4**

His **breath (Heb. ruwach i.e., spirit)**, goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

	Ecclesiastes 12:7	Psalm 146:4
Body	“The dust” (returns to the earth)	“He” (returns to the earth)
Spirit	“The spirit” (ruwach returns to God who gave it)	“The breath” (ruwach goes forth)
Soul	- - <i>Not addressed in this verse</i>	“His thoughts” (perish)

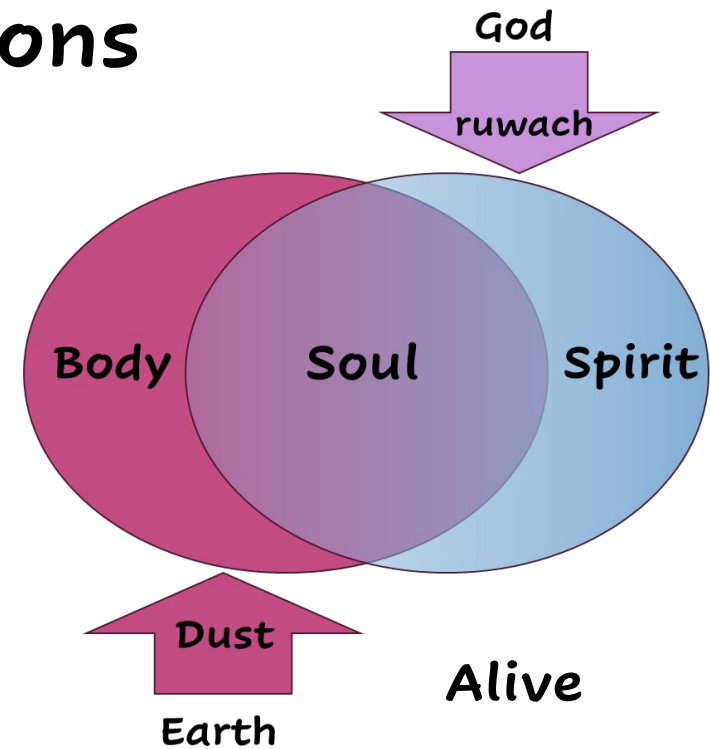
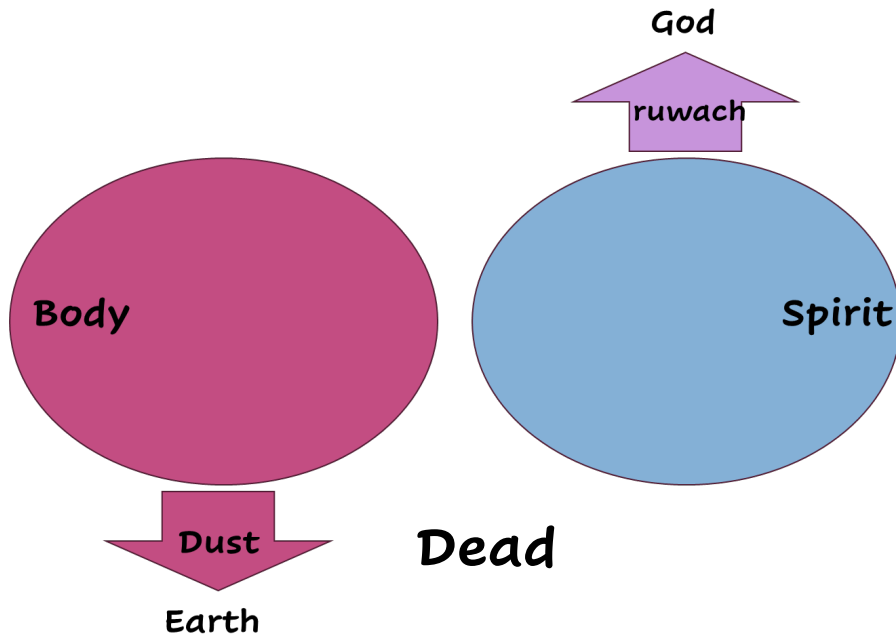
Some Definitions

• The Body

- That physical manifestation of matter in the natural world with the unique physical characteristics that God defined for our life purpose.
- That part of us which is capable of sensing and interacting in the natural realm.

• The Spirit

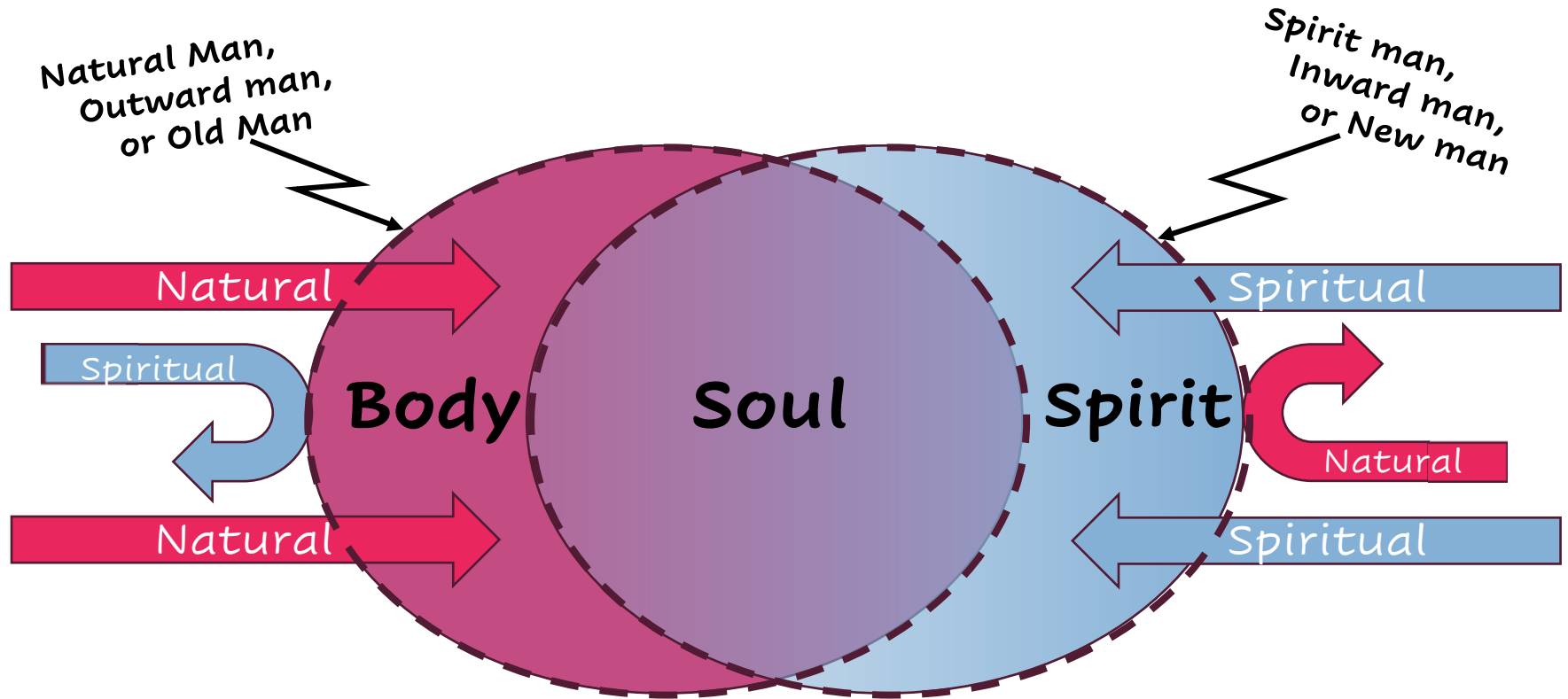
- The life-giving spiritual personification that God defined with unique characteristics for our life purpose
- That part of us which is capable of sensing and interacting in the spiritual realm



• The Soul

- Our conscious awareness of self
- Capable of thoughts based upon all the information received from the senses of the spirit and the body (i.e., both spiritual and natural senses)
- The seat of our emotions

The Natural man is Incapable of Receiving the Things of the Spirit of God



1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

The things of the Spirit of God can ONLY be spiritually discerned!

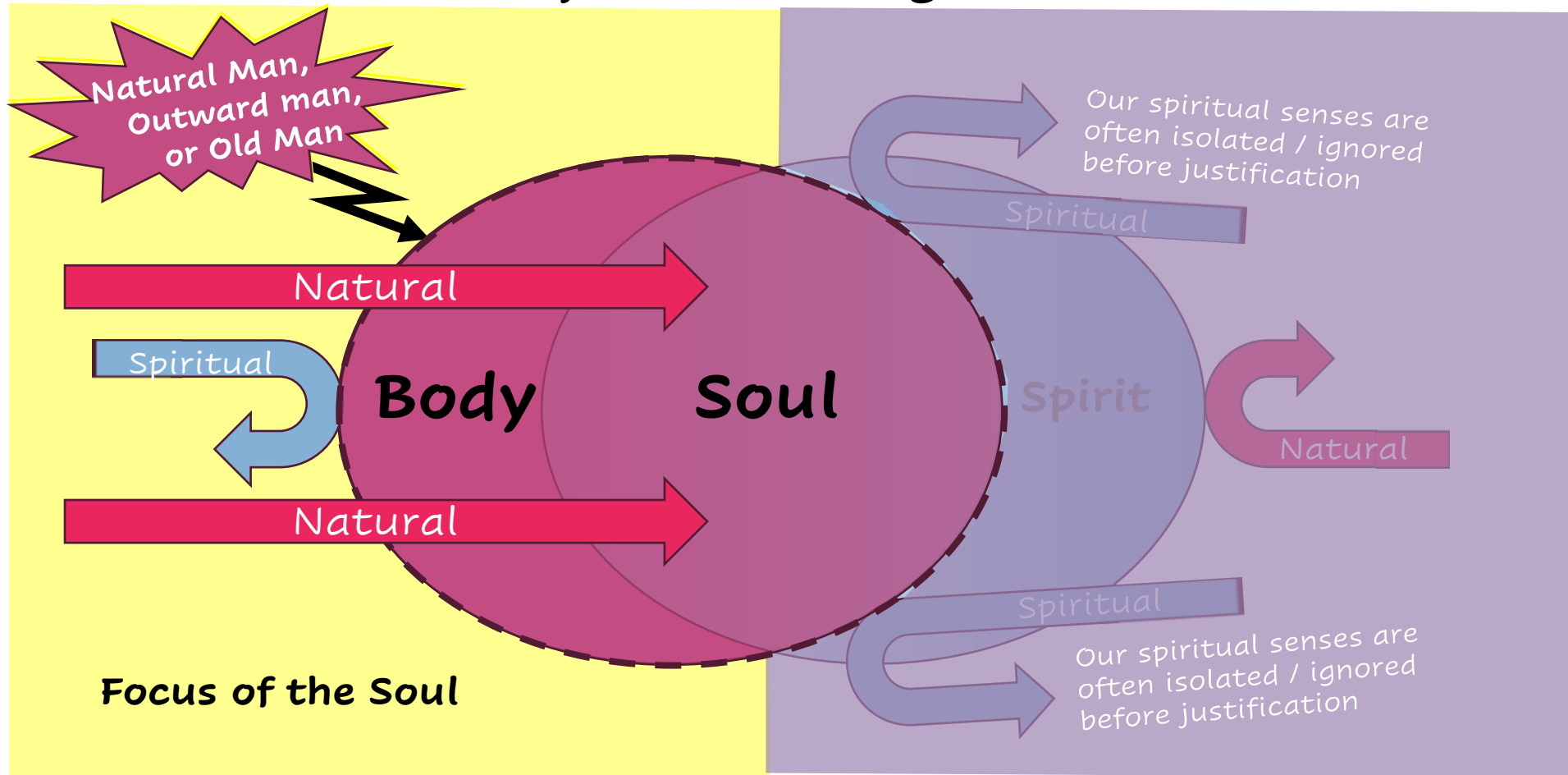
Solitary Confinement Analogy

- Solitary confinement causes our senses to be de-tuned and unable to function properly when forced into action
- When one sense is isolated or restrained ... others become more acute or sensitive

A lifetime of natural sensory domination and spiritual sensory confinement dulls our spiritual senses and leaves our soul to identify with the Natural ... since it “seems” to be all there is ...



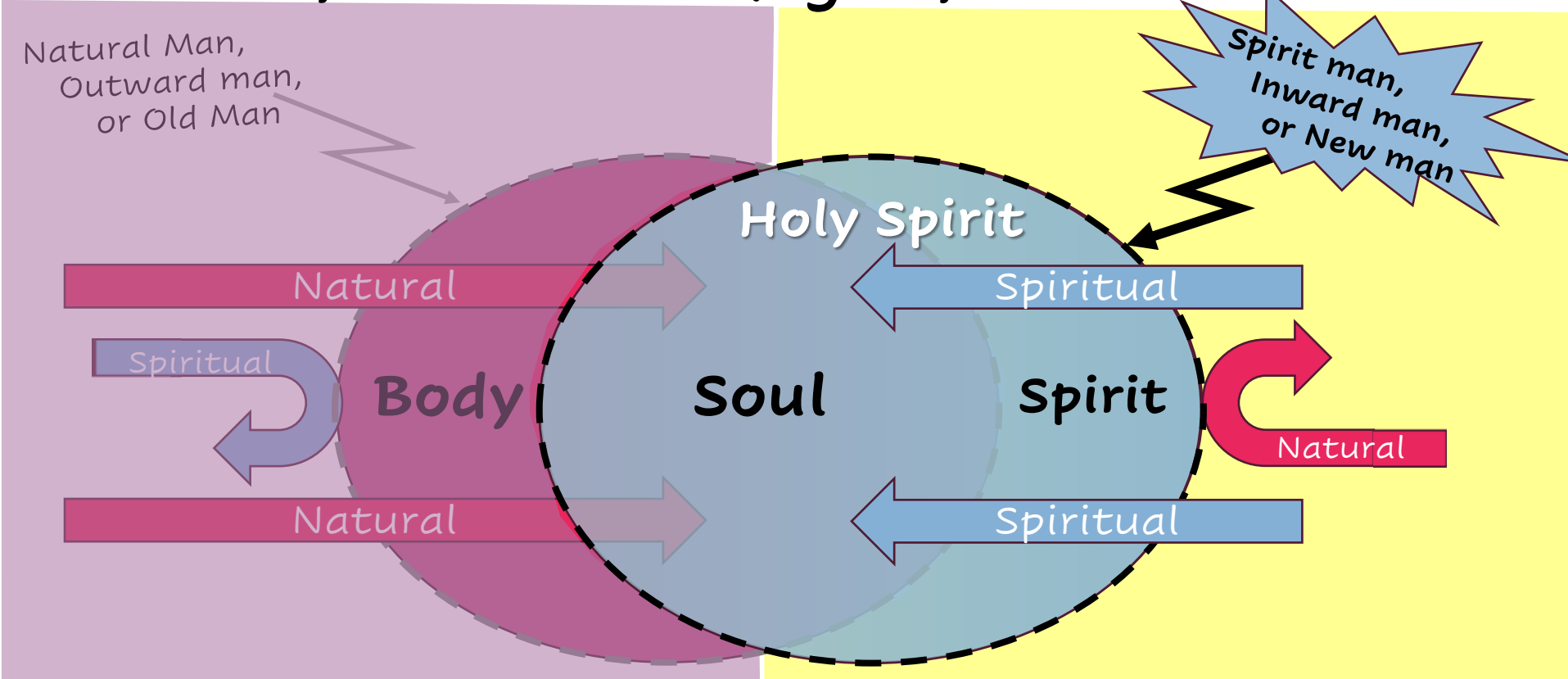
Before our Justification Experience our Soul is dominated by “the Things of the Natural”



Our Soul is trained to mind the things of the Natural and is discouraged from minding Spiritual Things ...

We learn to identify our Natural Man as “self”

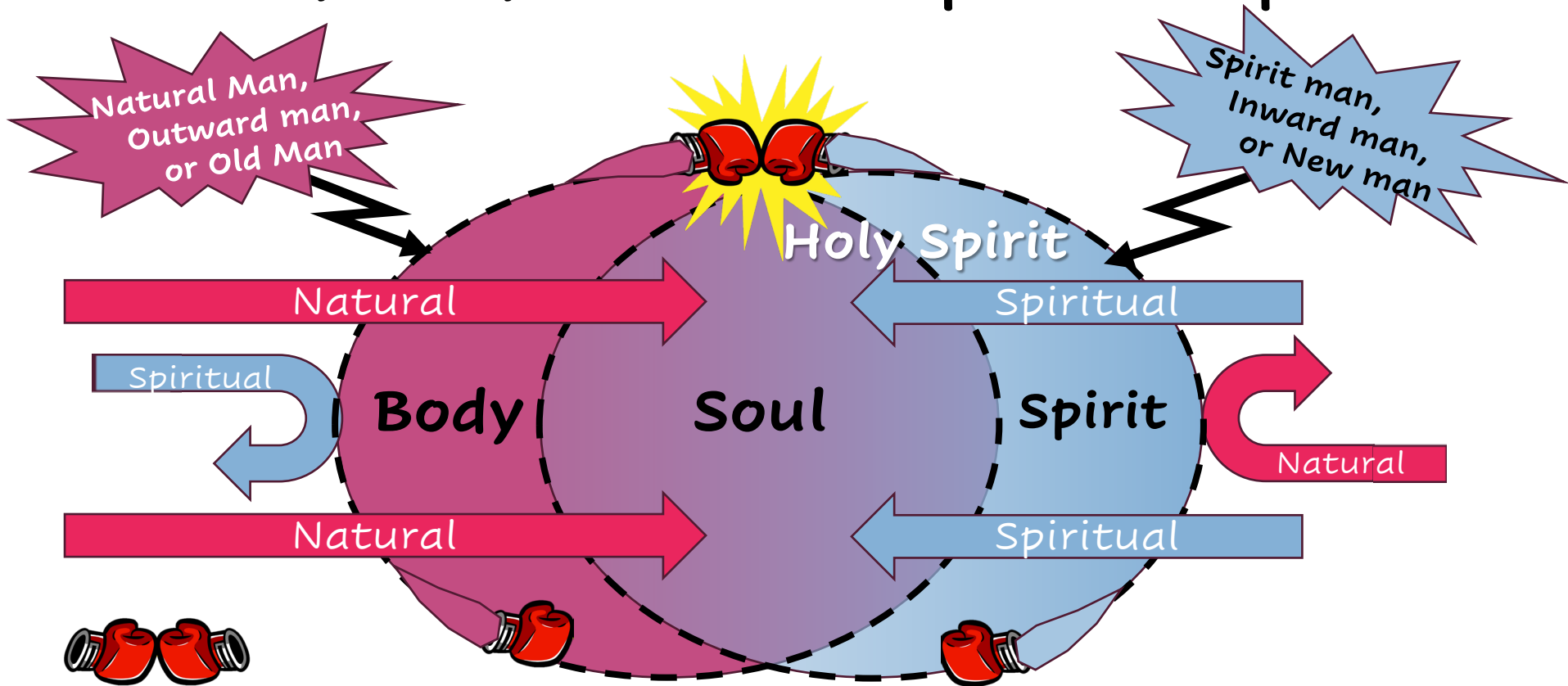
Justification is the Salvation of our Spirit from the Bondage of Isolation



1 Corinthians 2:12-13 ¹²Now we have received, NOT the spirit of the world, BUT the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. ¹³ Which things also we speak, NOT in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, BUT which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Salvation of our spirit sets up the conditions for the
"salvation of our soul" (sanctification)

In Sanctification, our soul wrestles with the conflict of natural vs. spiritual input



Romans 7: 22 – 24 ²² For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: ²³ But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴ **O wretched man that I am !** Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

What is the Root enabler of Sin?

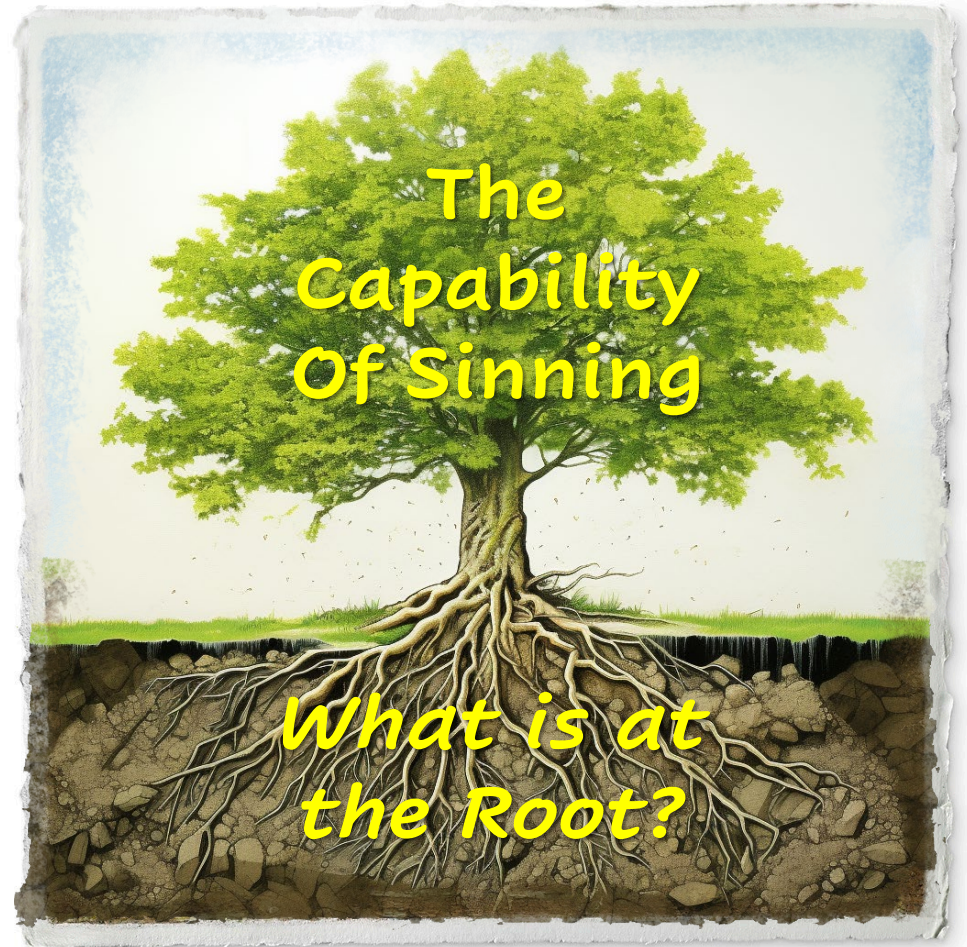
- **Mortality?**

- **Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that (G1909. all have sinned

- Death was Passed to all men

- But Adam sinned BEFORE he was mortal

- By one man sin entered the world ... and Death by Sin
 - So Sin came first for Adam



My guess: Mortality greatly amplifies our capacity to sin ...but there must be previous root enabler, ...
... otherwise, Adam could not have sinned

What was the Root enabler of Sin for Adam and Eve?

- The serpent presented a lie and a seed of doubt
 - **Lie:** Surely you will not die
 - **Doubt:** God doesn't want you to become like gods (elohim), knowing good and evil.
- Eve had never been told a lie
- Eve considered the lie, and the seed of doubt caused her to begin to lean on her own understanding
 - We know this because she went to inspect the fruit herself using her own “natural senses”
- Based on her own assessment, she discerned that the fruit was good to eat, and she partook of it.



Is it possible that Eve's consideration, of the serpent's lie, spawned fear and doubt which were the root enablers of her sin?

What about Adam?

- Adam did not believe the lie ...

- **1 Tim. 2:14** And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

... BUT Adam hearkened (i.e., *listened & obeyed*) to the voice of his wife rather than the voice of the Lord

- **Genesis 3:17** And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life;

- Husbands and Wives **are supposed to listen to each other, then go together to the Lord** to see if they are in agreement with the Lord's will.

- Since Adam was not deceived, he knew that Eve would die

- Adam's choice:

- Hearken unto Eve's voice, possibly believing that they would live together then die together
- Hearken unto the voice of the Lord and face an unknown future, ... potentially alone



Speculation: Adam hearkened to his wife over hearkening to the Lord based on fear of living without Eve

The Capacity to believe a lie has a snowball effect that can spawn fears and doubts



- **What if** : The capacity to be deceived was the root enabler of sin and the derivative fears and doubts were triggers for action?
- **What if**: Mortality is an amplifier of this capacity, rather than the root enabler?

But ... what condition allowed them to have the capacity to be deceived?

Is there a condition that makes one “Incapable of Sin?”

- **1 John 3:9** Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born (gennao / **begotten**) of God.
 - Begotten means to be conceived ... which precedes a hidden period of development followed by birth
- Wasn't Adam called the son of God? Does that make him “begotten of God?”
 - **Luke 3:38** Which was *the son* of Enos, which was *the son* of Seth, which was ***the son of Adam, which was the son of God***
- Adam, was the son of God, but he was not “begotten of God”
 - Jesus was the ONLY Begotten Son of God (John 1:14, John 1:18, John 3:16, 18, Luke 2:38, etc.)
 - Adam was formed, already fully developed, then, by the breath of life, he became a living soul (Genesis 2:7)

Adam became mortal and genetically passed that mortality on to everyone who was conceived (begotten) of the flesh

John 3:6 That which is born (begotten) of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born (begotten) of the Spirit is spirit.

Anyone who is begotten of the Spirit of God is incapable of sin ... so ... is “not being begotten of God, the root enabler of sin?”

Jesus was Made Flesh But Never Sinned

- When did Jesus become mortal?

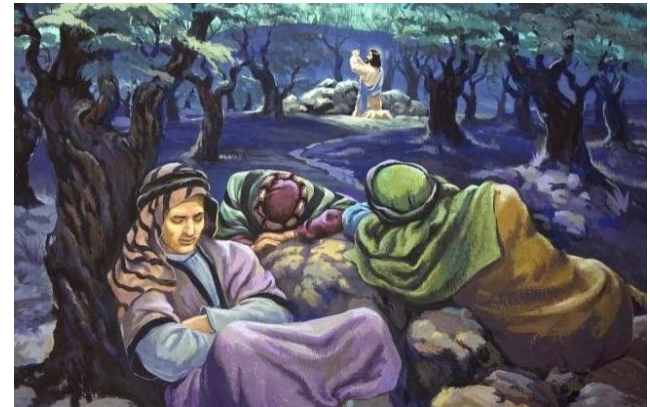
- Earliest would have been from birth:

- **Galatians 4:4-5** ⁴But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law. ⁵To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

- *“Under the law” meant “under the judgment of the law” ... i.e., the death sentence...*

- Latest would have been in the Garden before his betrayal and arrest

- **Luke 22:44** And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.
 - *Sweat of the face was the sign God gave to Adam when Adam became mortal in the Garden*



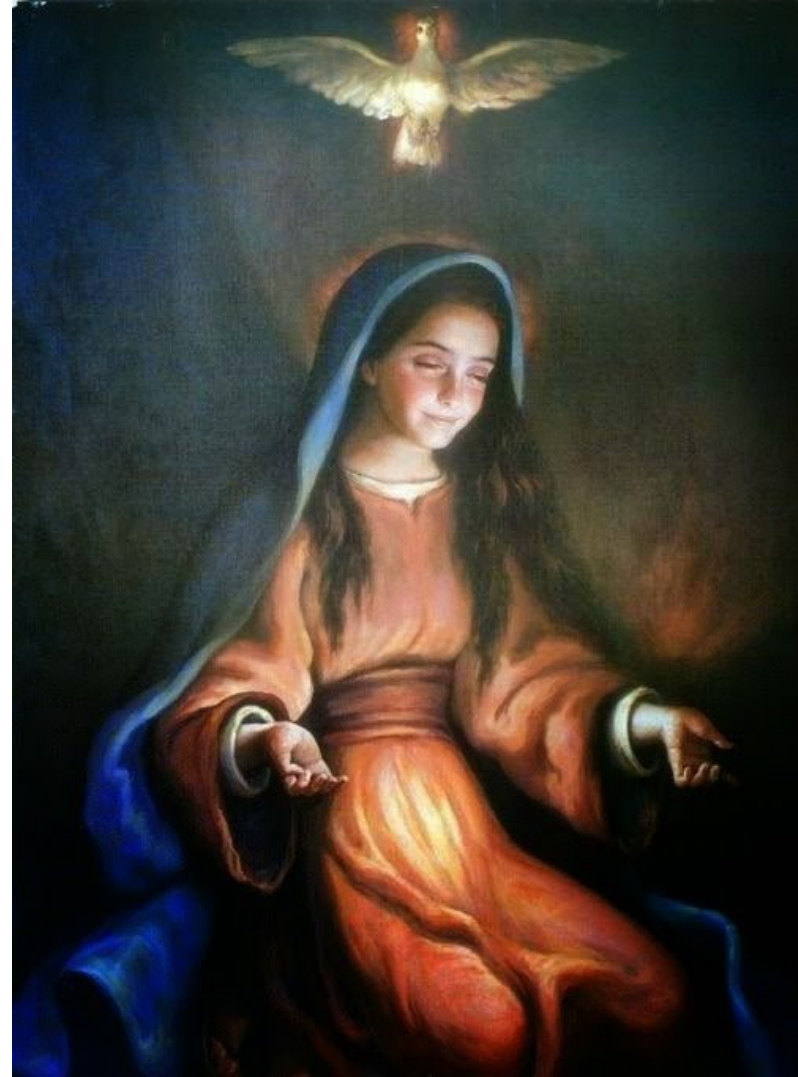
**While mortal, Jesus heard lies, experienced emotional trauma, and had opportunities for fear and doubt ...
... but never sinned!**

Jesus was Begotten of the Holy Spirit

- Jesus was made flesh and became mortal, **BUT NEVER SINNED**

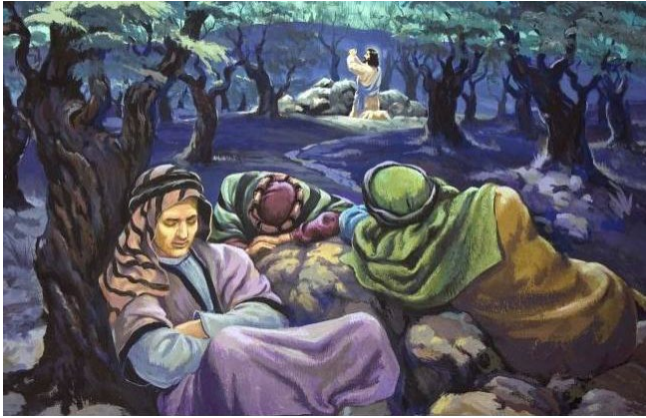
BECAUSE:

- Jesus was begotten of the Holy Spirit
 - **Matthew 1:18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, **she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.**
- Since Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit of Truth, Jesus was the truth at a DNA Level ... and
 - Did not have the capacity to sin because he did not have the capacity to be deceived
 - Did not have the capacity to have fears, doubts, and trauma rooted in belief of a lie
 - Had feelings and emotional responses that were properly aligned and proportional to the Truth of what was happening in the present.



Jesus' Emotions were properly aligned with the truth of what was happening in the present

- Jesus faced lies and seeds of doubt in his encounter with the devil



- Jesus was in emotional anguish in the Garden of Gethsemane

- Jesus heard lies, experienced betrayal and abandonment and plenty of opportunities for fear and trauma during his trial and crucifixion



Jesus' emotional responses were always aligned with truth

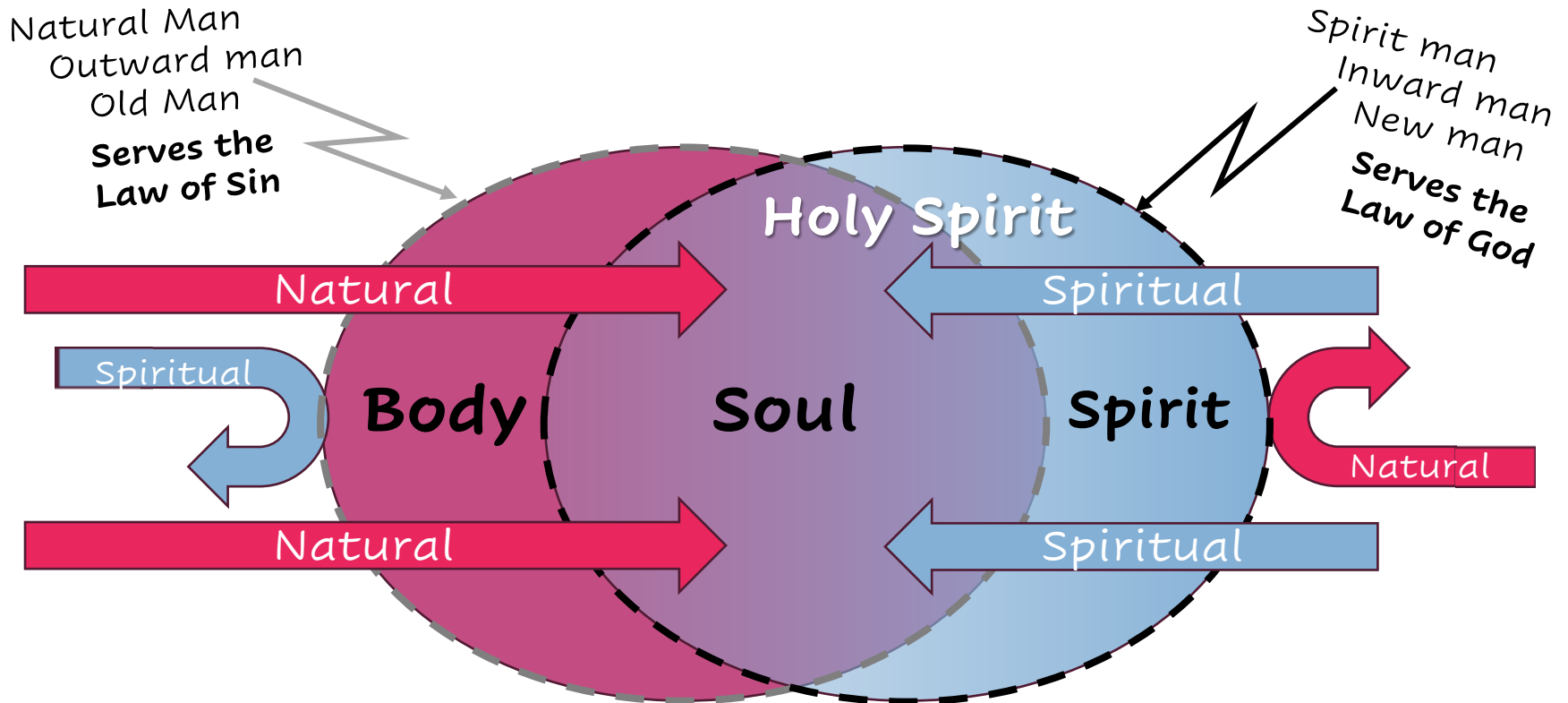
The Good News: *We have the opportunity to be begotten of the Holy Spirit*

- **We are first begotten of the flesh ... but that which is begotten of the spirit is referred to by Paul as a new creature ... it is our new / spirit identity**
 - **2 Corinthians 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- **1 John 3:9** Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is **born (*gennao* / **begotten**)** of God
- **John 3:5-7** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born (*gennao* / **begotten**)** of water AND *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is **born (*gennao* / **begotten**)** of the flesh is flesh; and that which is **born (*gennao* / **Begotten**)** of the Spirit is spirit.

In Justification, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit which conceives our new / spirit man within

... which is incapable of sinning as it is conceived of the Spirit of Truth

Justification sets us up for Sanctification



- **Romans 7:21-25** ²¹ I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. ²² For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: ²³ But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴ O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death ²⁵ I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh I still serves the law of sin.

Paul declares his true self to be his soul (mind) submitting to his inward / spirit man which is incapable of sinning

When we Receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit, He ...

1. Guides us into all truth

John 16:13 ¹³ Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **he will guide you into all truth:** for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.



2. Begets the “Spirit man” within us

John 3:5-7 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be **born** (*gennao / begotten*) of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

3. He teaches our spirit to discern spiritual things

1 Corinthians 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but **which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.**

4. He will sanctify us with the truth

2 Thess. 2:13 KJV ¹³ But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because **God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:**

Another What if . . .

- What if our feelings / emotions are like the dashboard warning lights in our cars?



- Low Oil Pressure ?
 - o Something is off
 - o Check Oil level
 - o Check if pump is working



- Check Engine ?
 - o Broader range of issues than for Oil Pressure light
 - o May need to run broad spectrum diagnostics



Dashboard indicator lights provide a warning that something is “off” and needs to be addressed

If ignored, bigger problems might arise!

Another What if . . . (cont.)

- What about our emotions?



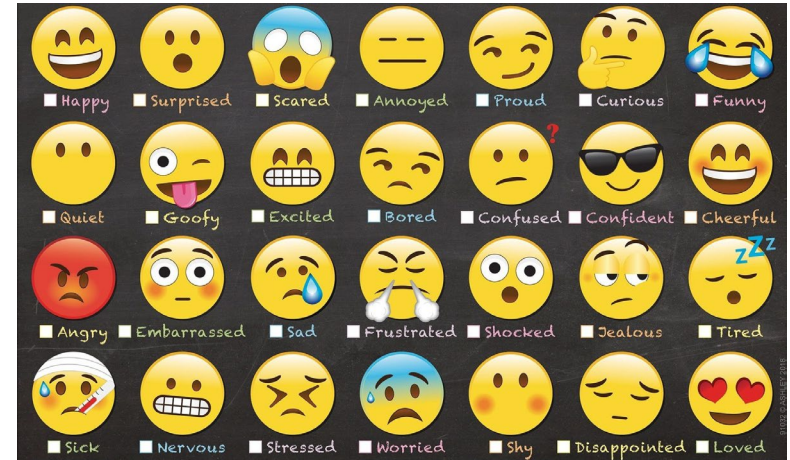
Feeling Anxious?

- Something is off
- Is there a real / present threat?
- What's the trigger?



Feeling Sad ?

- Something is off
- Is there a real / current source of sadness?
- Is something current triggering a sadness rooted in the past?



What if Feelings / Emotions provide a warning that something is "off" and we need God (by the Holy Spirit) to reveal the truth behind the feeling?

And If ignored, bigger problems might arise!

Hypothetical Scenario ...

Sanctification:

Where the rubber meets the road on our Salvation Journey

- What if God brings about circumstances that will trigger emotions within us, which ultimately reveal underlying beliefs that need to be addressed to purge us of the doubts, fears and trauma that have us in bondage?



- Many “sinful desires” are actually rooted in believing lies
 - Unhealthy Desire for Money
 - Might be believing that God will not provide provision ... but consider the parable of the lilies
 - Unhealthy Desire for More Power / Authority
 - Might be believing that God will forsake us, and that we can control our circumstances if we had more strength / power or a position of great authority
 - Lustful desires of the flesh might be rooted in believing the lie that physical relationships can fill the void in our hearts that can only be filled by unconditional love.

What if believing lies, develops desires that lead to behaviors that miss the mark relative to God’s will ?

The Battle: Is about leading our Soul to mind / submit to our Spirit Identity vs. Our Natural Man

- The devil tries to lead our Soul to mind that which is presented by our Old / Natural identity
- Our new / spirit identity rejects lies and presents our soul with spiritual truths



- Jesus calls out the “true worshippers” of God in John 4:23
 - **Jn. 4:23** ²³ But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
 - “True” was translated from G228, *alethinos*, meaning that which has not only the name and resemblance, but the real nature corresponding to the name,

When our soul minds our spirit, we act out of truth and reveal our true identity which has the genuine nature of God

The Scriptures are Replete with Passages about “the truth” ... by which we are sanctified

- ... And ye shall know the truth, **and the truth shall make you free.** (John 8:32)
- The Psalms frequently identify God as “The God of Mercy and Truth” and that His mercy and truth shall preserve us.
- Proverbs 16:6 – “By mercy and truth iniquity is purged; ...”
- Purging means to remove something that is unwanted ...
 - Sounds like the refining process for purification
- **2 Thessalonians 2:13 KJV** ¹³ But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because **God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:**
 - “Sanctification” is translated in the New Testament from G38 “hagiasmos” meaning: to consecrate or purify

The sanctification phase of our salvation journey is about saving our soul by purging our mind of the lies that are shaping our behaviors and replacing them with the truth that shall set us free!!



Repent:

To change your thoughts AND Feelings

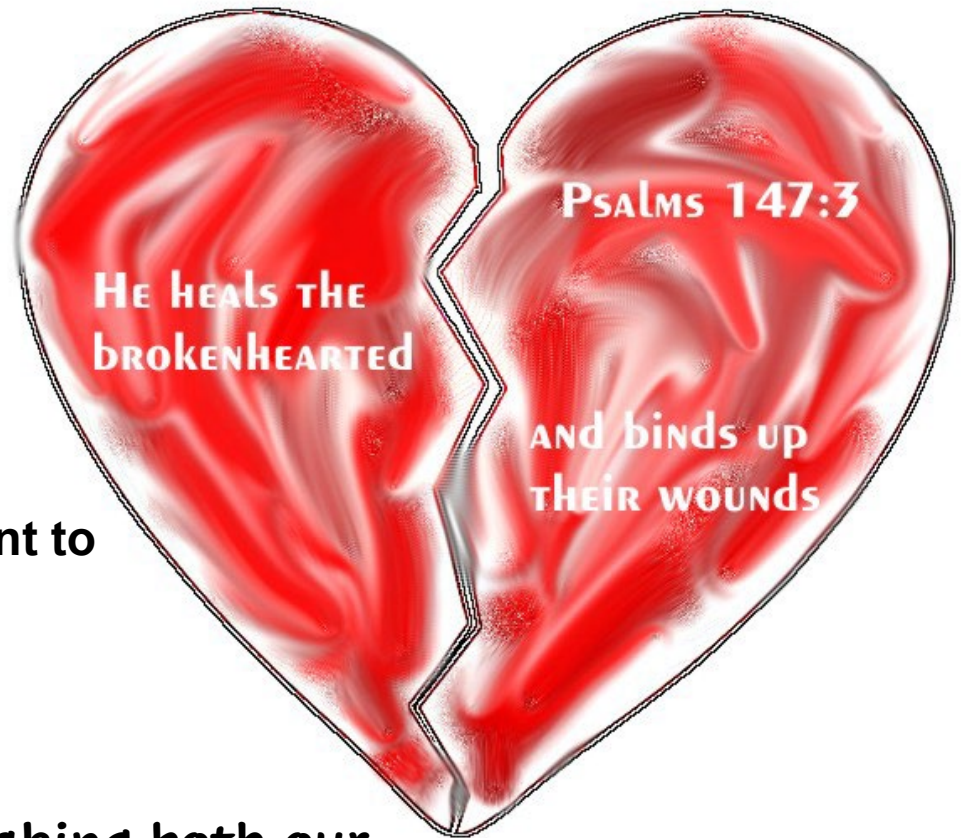


- Must allow ourselves to feel ...
 - God had feelings, and we are made in his image
- Must learn to distinguish between thoughts and feelings
- Must take our feelings before God the Father and ask for revelation on what God is bringing to the surface to be purged.

Changing our thoughts AND feelings will bring our head and our heart into alignment which brings peace

In summary ... What was all that about ?

- **Justification is the beginning of our salvation journey**
 - Our Passover Experience
 - The Salvation of our Spirit
- **Glorification is the destination of our salvation journey**
 - Our Tabernacles Experience
 - The salvation of our body
- **Sanctification is the path of progression from the starting point to the destination in our salvation journey**
 - Our Pentecost Experience
 - The salvation of our soul



... and Sanctification involves taking both our thoughts and our feelings before God because:

He (*the LORD*) healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds (Ps. 147:3)