

THE THEOLOGY OF THE HUMAN BODY

#1 FORMED BY GOD

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (NKJV)

19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian church challenging them to view their bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit. The Greek culture celebrated the body in a sensual and pagan manner. Other schools of thought at that time believed that the body could function independent of the soul. However, for Christians the body holds tremendous significance and is an essential in our faith and worship. God caress about our bodies and desires for us to use them for His glory.

I. **The body was and is _____:**

God did not create a universe of _____. Although He Himself is spirit, He made a clear choice to form a physical world in which human beings and other creatures would have physical bodies.

Adam's body was formed by God

Genesis 2:7 (NKJV)

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 being.

Likewise, when Eve is created, she does not simply appear out of nowhere.

Genesis 2:21–22 (NKJV)

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

God could have presumably created man in any way He pleased, but He chose to do it in this manner that clearly links human life with the physical universe.

The human body is intricately and intentionally created by God.

Psalms 139:13–16 (NIV)

13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

What can we say about the origins of the body?

1. It bears the _____
2. It has innate _____
3. It was made _____
4. It was _____ by sin
5. It was created with _____
6. It is endowed with divine _____

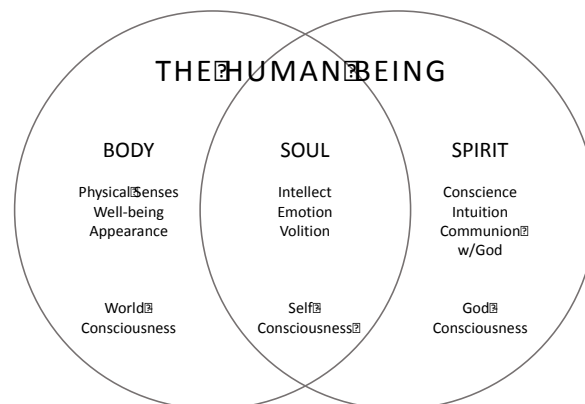
I. The body is more than just a _____:

The body is not a separate part of you. It is you. You are more than your body, but it is important to understand that your body is “you”

1. God created mankind to be _____, _____ and _____.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NKJV)

23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.



The body cannot live without a soul and your soul would not exist without a body. Your soul did not preexist your body.

We talk at length about the spiritual “us”, however we are not merely spirit, we have bodies and we were made to live in a physical universe.

2. The body is intended to be the physical you for _____. The body was not supposed to die:

Romans 5:12 (NKJV)

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—

3. Every human body will be resurrected: (See also Rev. 20:12)

John 5:28–29 (NKJV)

28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice

29 and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

4. Our bodies will be _____ and _____:

a. The redemption of the body:

Romans 8:23 (NKJV)

23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Romans 8:18–23 (NIV)

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

b. The transformation of the body:

Philippians 3:21 (NKJV)

21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

1 Corinthians 15:51–54 (NKJV)

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

II. The body has a _____ purpose and design.

1. Procreation, eating, and working all existed prior to the Fall

Genesis 1:27–28 (NKJV)

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 2:9 (NKJV)

9 And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:15 (NKJV)

15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

2. Many of those functions have been negatively impacted by the _____ and consequently misused.
3. The body is for more than merely experiencing pleasure. There is pleasure found in having and using our body, but our body is not FOR pleasure. Our body is for _____.

1 Corinthians 6:13 (NKJV)

13 Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

"...Since the Master honors you with a body, honor him with your body!" The Message

III. What is done in the body _____:

The actions of the body have spiritual significance.

Things that take place in our bodies have a major impact on our mental state and even our emotional and spiritual welfare.

We do _____ with _____. If kneeling and speaking to God in prayer can net spiritual results then doing other things with your body can also net spiritual results.