

Part 1. Humanity and Theology

Lesson 1: Our Design and Realities

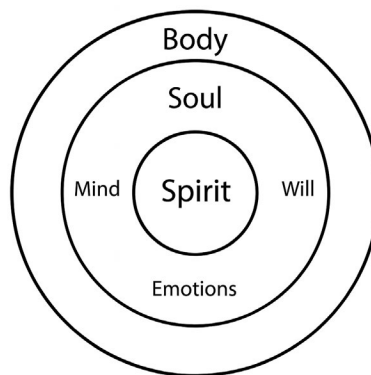
Lesson Summary

God has a redemptive process for fallen humanity—male and female alike: salvation through Christ (Rom. 3:21–26; John 14:6), transformation by the renewing of the mind (Rom. 12:2), sanctification through faith and obedience (1 Thess. 4:1–8), influence through discipleship (Matt. 28:19–20), and impact through kingdom culture (2 Tim. 2:2; Acts 1:8).

Believers are called to live under God’s rule, seeking His Kingdom above all else (Matt. 6:33) while recognizing the tension of the “already and not yet” Kingdom (Luke 17:21; Rev. 19–20). Humanity is created body, soul, and spirit (1 Thess. 5:23), with justification securing our standing in Christ (Rom. 5:1), sanctification shaping ongoing growth (Eph. 4:11–13), and prayer being central to our daily walk (1 Thess. 5:16–18).

The Holy Spirit indwells, empowers, and equips every believer (Eph. 1:13–14; Acts 1:8), while spiritual warfare reminds us of our enemy (1 Pet. 5:8) and our authority in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17–21). Through God’s promises and our yieldedness, believers mature in virtue, progressing toward godliness and love (2 Pet. 1:3–8).

Both men and women were created in God’s image (Gen. 1:27), redeemed through Christ, and called to reflect His character in their distinct God-given roles. While this series emphasizes spiritual leadership and accountability for men, these truths apply to all believers who desire to walk in holiness and Kingdom purpose.



Key Takeaways

- God redeems His people through a process: **salvation** → **transformation** → **sanctification** → **discipleship** → **impact** (Rom. 12:2; Matt. 28:19–20).
- The Kingdom is both **present and future**, with Christ reigning now and returning to establish it fully (Luke 17:21; Rev. 11:15).
- Humanity is a **three-part being**—spirit (redeemed), soul (renewed), body (submitted) (1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 4:12).
- Renewing the mind aligns believers with God’s truth and will (Rom. 12:1–2; 2 Cor. 5:17).
- **Prayer** is essential—our first response, not our last resort (1 Thess. 5:16–18; Mark 1:35).
- The **Holy Spirit** indwells, empowers, and equips every believer (Eph. 1:13–14; 1 Cor. 12:13).

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- We have a **spiritual enemy**, but greater is He who is in us (1 John 4:4; Eph. 6:10–12).
- Believers carry **authority in Christ** (2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 2:9–11) and are called to walk in holiness and spiritual order.
- Spiritual growth is a **progression of virtues**—faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love (2 Pet. 1:3–8).

Questions & Answers

1. **Q: What is the process God uses to redeem sinful humanity?**
A: Salvation (Rom. 3:21–26), transformation (Rom. 12:2), sanctification (1 Thess. 4:3), discipleship (Matt. 28:19–20), and kingdom impact (Acts 1:8).
2. **Q: How does the Bible describe the Kingdom of God as both “now” and “not yet”?**
A: Christ reigns in believers’ hearts now (Col. 1:13), but His Kingdom will be fully established at His return (Rev. 19–20).
3. **Q: What are the three parts of humanity, and how do they relate to salvation?**
A: Spirit (redeemed at salvation), soul (being renewed), body (must submit) (1 Thess. 5:23).
4. **Q: According to Romans 12:1–2, what transforms the believer?**
A: The renewing of the mind through surrender to God’s will and Word.
5. **Q: Why must prayer be our first response?**
A: Because prayer aligns us with God’s power and purposes in every situation (1 Thess. 5:16–18).
6. **Q: What is the difference between the indwelling and filling of the Holy Spirit?**
A: Indwelling happens once at salvation (Eph. 1:13–14), while filling is ongoing empowerment for obedience and ministry (Eph. 5:18).
7. **Q: How do believers resist the spiritual enemy?**
A: By standing firm in God’s Word, wearing the armor of God, and taking thoughts captive (Eph. 6:10–12; 2 Cor. 10:5).
8. **Q: What does 2 Peter 1:5–7 teach about spiritual growth?**
A: Growth is a progression of virtues that leads believers toward maturity and love.

God designed every believer for transformation—redeemed in spirit, renewed in mind, and empowered to impact His Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven.