

'Assumptions Regarding Our Soul'

Assumptions in general:

What do people assume about the soul?

Theologians have always written about the soul

"It is probable that we are to think of man's immaterial nature as composed of a lower and a higher portion. To the soul would belong man's imagination, memory, understanding; to the spirit, his powers of reason, conscience and free will... For the sake of simplicity we shall use the term 'soul' to denote man's entire immaterial nature, both soul and spirit." - Thiessen, p. 227, 232

The Bible tells us much about the soul, about the immaterial part of our makeup.

"'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Lk. 10:27 (NIV)

"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." I Thes. 5:23 (NIV)

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Heb. 4:12 (NIV)

"'One's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.' And he told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' 'So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.'" Luke 12:15-21 (ESV)

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where inflation and corrosion destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where inflation and corrosion do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Mt. 6:19-21

Matthew 6:25-34 and Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18

What Are We Focused On?

"Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."
II Cor. 4:16-18 (NIV)

Our inclination is to focus on the natural- that which can be perceived through our senses.

Let's not forget the spiritual as we live the natural.

TALK IT OVER:

Look over what the scriptures say about the 'soul' in Luke 10:27, 1Thess. 5:23 & Hebrews 4:12.

How does God tell us to regard the soul?

What importance does scripture place on the soul?

In Luke 12:15 - 21, Jesus told a parable about a person who placed all his 'soul' into his possessions. What happened to the man in the parable?

Let's check our own hearts and souls and spiritual condition.

What are we focused on? 11 Corinthians 4:16-18

Do we feed our spirits/soul by daily Bible reading and study? Or do we place high regard for the things that will pass away?