

If The Holy Spirit Is A Person Then Is The Spirit In Man That Person Or An Essence?

Genesis 2:7 [NIV] *“the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”*

Human beings are composed of the physical elements found in the soil, with the addition of a spirit element that comes from God. As a result of this union we become a living, thinking, self-aware being.

1 Corinthians 15:39 [NIV] *“All flesh is not the same: Men have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another.”*

Not all created beings have the same flesh.

Ecclesiastes 3:18-21 [NIV] *“I also thought, ‘As for men, God tests them so that they may see that they are like the animals. Man’s fate is like that of the animals; the same fate awaits them both: As one dies, so dies the other. All have the same breath; man has no advantage over the animal. Everything is meaningless. All go to the same place; all come from dust, and to dust all return. Who knows if the spirit of man rises upward and if the spirit of the animal goes down into the earth?’”*

Solomon asked the question, “do humans have a different life-giving spirit to other animals?”

Ecclesiastes 12:7 [NIV] *“and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.”*

Solomon answers this question that He asked. Humans do have a different spirit.

Job 32:8 [NIV] *“But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, **that gives him understanding.**”*

It is this different life-giving spirit in humans that makes us different to other created animals.

This spirit gives us understanding, the Hebrew word “*bîyn*” [bene] meaning to separate mentally – to consider, to think and to teach and be instructed.

We are speaking about thoughts, the action of our brain empowered by this spirit within us.

Thoughts are spiritual by nature as they do not occupy space nor can they be weighed physically.

We are the product of our thoughts.

Matthew 15:18-20 [NIV] *“But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man ‘unclean’. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. These are what make a man ‘unclean’; but eating with unwashed hands does not make him ‘unclean’.”*

When our thoughts are **not** directed by the Holy Spirit they eventually make us evil.

Philippians 4:5-9 [NIV] *“Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your*

minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”

Thoughts that are the fruit of the Holy Spirit influencing our spirit make us Holy and at peace with our Creator God.

We are the spirit that is in us making us either good or evil.

It is that spirit [the real us] that will return to God to await judgement.