

Broken Love Restored

I. The Meaning Being Human

The human cannot live without love.

He is **incomprehensible** to himself, his life is **senseless**,
if love is not **revealed** to him, if he does not **encounter** love,

 If he does not **experience** it and **make it his own**,
 if he does not **participate** intimately in it.

A. Image —

1. Self-Awareness (**reason**)
2. Self-Determination (**freedom of will**)

B. Likeness — The capacity to love and to rule creatively from the root and foundation of love.

True freedom— To live as a gift.
Spirit—Soul—Body = Person

II. The Answers — In the Beginning

Wrong questions — Wrong Answers

From the Beginning

III. Divine Code in Our Humanity

A. Our Bodies Matter

1 Cor 6:19 NIV Do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; **20** you were bought at a price. Therefore **honor God with your body**.

B. Our Bodies Form the Interface with the Physical World

E. We Need Our Bodies to be “Like God in this World!”

Adam recognized in Eve—unlike the animals—an **equal**, a **person** like himself whom **he could love**, to whom he could give

himself completely and who could receive and reciprocate his gift to form a union that would **fulfill the very meaning of their existence**.

D. The Message of the Body— *Inscribed in every person:*

I am **capable of**, and **made for**, an interpersonal union in which I **freely give myself** to another in love and **receive love** in return.

The human body says, “**I am a gift**. I am capable of giving myself freely to another person in love.”

Man, the only creature on earth which God willed for himself, cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of self.

John 15:9 NKJ “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. **10** If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

11 “These things I have spoken to you, that **My joy** may remain in you, and *that your joy* may be full. **12** This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.

Original Solitude — not the image & likeness

Original Unity — The Plural Union — The First Words — Words of the Groom...Last Words of the Bride.

Original Nakedness — Transparency of Love, Seeing the Person, Undistracted by Separation of Physical Beauty from the Whole Person. Body, Soul, Spirit

1 Thess 5:23 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.

IV. Disruption & Restoration

The ***disorders*** brought about by the Fall: Here are 5

Shame, Fear, Conflict, Painful Work, Death

If we really get free in ONE, there is a freedom that spread to every area.

1. **Shame**: disruption between spirit & body. (there is something wrong with me)

Gen 3:7 NKJV Then the **eyes** of both of them were **opened**, and they **knew** that they *were* **naked**; and they sewed fig leaves together and **made themselves coverings**.

Their bodies were **no longer transparent**, revealing the true inner person, but now a distraction which can become an object rather than a gift.

Iniquity, a **disorder in our desires**, causes us to desire that which is harmful, to dishonor the glory of others and themselves.

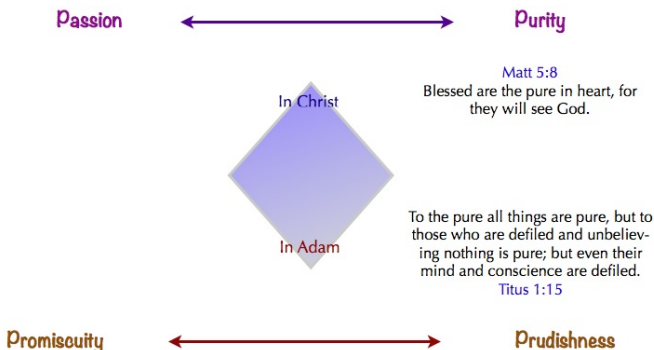
Manifestations of Shame: Anything which **objectifies** the body and **obscures** the true value of the person. Thus displays of the body that call attention to it rather than to the beauty of the whole Person are not only an **indicator** of shame, but a **generator** of shamefulness in others.

Reciprocal Love we not only **imitate God**, but we PARTICIPATE in His Divine Nature and in the fullness of REDEMPTION.

Purity allows true **Passion**

Matt 5:8 NKJ Blessed *are* the pure in heart,
For they shall see God.

Promiscuity and **Prudishness** are expressions of our own efforts.



Titus 1:15 NKJ To the **pure** all things are pure, but to those who are **defiled** and **unbelieving** nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

Getting Free: Cease from our own Efforts

Receive & Live in the Purity and Passion of God!

Put off---shame **Put on**--- purity & passion

2. **Fear**: disruption in relating with God (Love)

Gen 3:8 NKJ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife **hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God** among the trees of the garden.

9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and **I was afraid** because I was naked; and I **hid** myself."

Moving Out of Fear... into Love / REPENT/RECEIVE/BECOME

Fear becomes Reverence/Honor/Appreciation.

Love Appreciates... Raises the Value of it's zone of influence

3. **Conflict**: disruption between Persons meant to be mutual gifts.

Gen 3:12 NKJ Then the man said, "**The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me** of the tree, and I ate."

16 To the woman He said:

"...Your **desire shall be** for your husband,
And he shall **rule** over you."

Out of Strife

Into Love

The Deference of Love. Coming to SERVE not to BE SERVED

The **Lover** begets the **Beloved**

The Husband is the one who loves, the wife is the one who is loved.

Love becomes the world of the family. It is the gift of one to the other. The yielding nature of love. The Creative nature of love.

4. **Work:** disruption between Man and the creation

Gen 3:16 NKJ To the woman He said:

“I will greatly **multiply** your **sorrow** and your conception;
In pain you shall bring forth children;

17 Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it’:
‘Cursed *is* the ground for your sake;
In toil you shall eat *of* it
All the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you,
And you shall eat the herb of the field.

19a In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread...

That which should have been a great delight becomes a pain and frustration.

Getting **Out of Toil**, reconnecting to **Creative Contribution**

How Can I Serve? Make a Contribution? Leave a Legacy?

Good Works that were prepared for YOU.. (**Eph 2:4-10**)

5. **Death:** disruption from the ETERNAL life of God

19b ...Till you return to the ground,
For out of it you were taken;
For dust you *are*,
And to dust you shall return.”

Out of Death into Life ... Receiving the Gift.

THE SOLUTION: God's Inextinguishable Mercy! Gen 3:15

Oceans of Mercy gushed from the Cross to cover the whole world.

Come to Me — I will Give You Rest

Matt 11:28 NKJ ***Come to Me***, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will **give you rest**. **29** Take My yoke upon you and **learn from Me**, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and **you will find rest** for your souls. **30** For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.”

All we do is RECEIVE the Gift! And in that we become UNITED. Receiving is not Passivity! How about a wide receiver on a football team! That’s a total commitment.

Rev 22:17 NIV The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

True freedom is the ability to unite your whole being in choosing what is good, without any constraint.