

1 Peter Series

Lesson #119

February 8, 2018

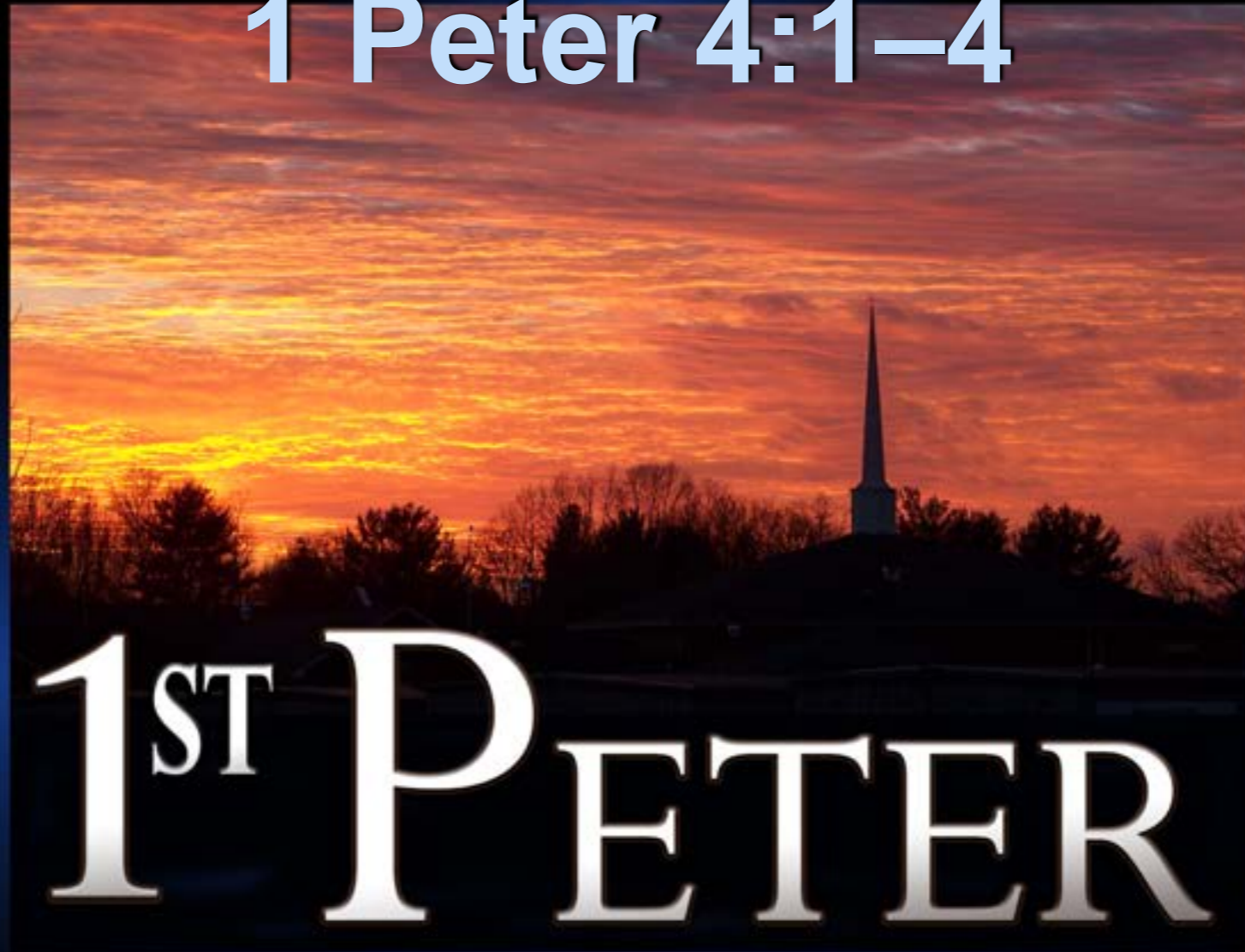
Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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Thinking:
The Christian Life Focus

1 Peter 4:1-4



LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY

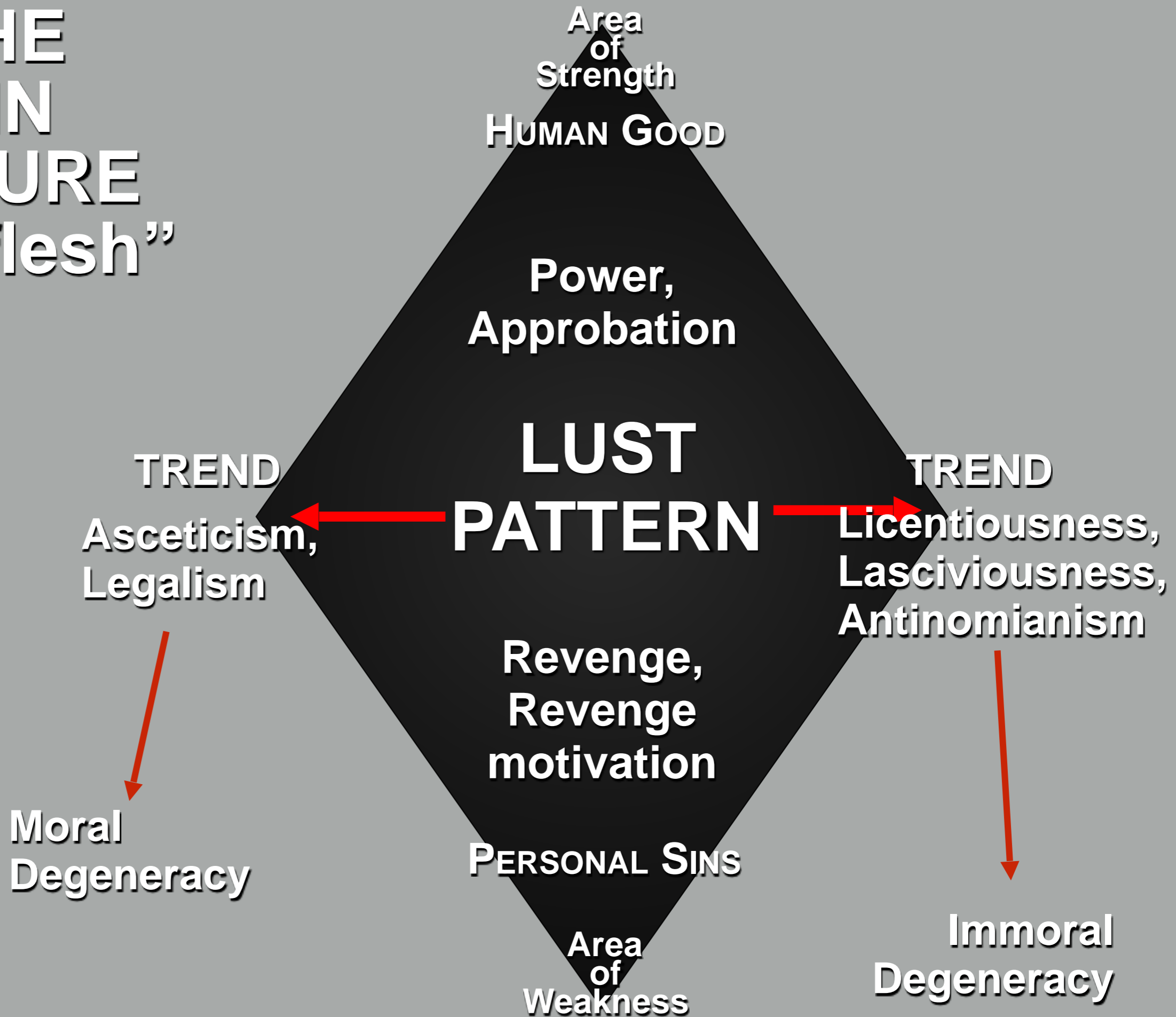
1 Pet. 4:1, “Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,”

1 Pet. 3:18, “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”

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THE SIN NATURE “the flesh”



**What the Bible Teaches
About
Mental Attitude Focus
*THINKING!!***



**Prov. 23:7a, “For as he thinks in his heart,
so is he.”**

**שָׁעַר (*shā‘ar*) II, *calculate,*
reckon, measure (Prov. 23:7)**

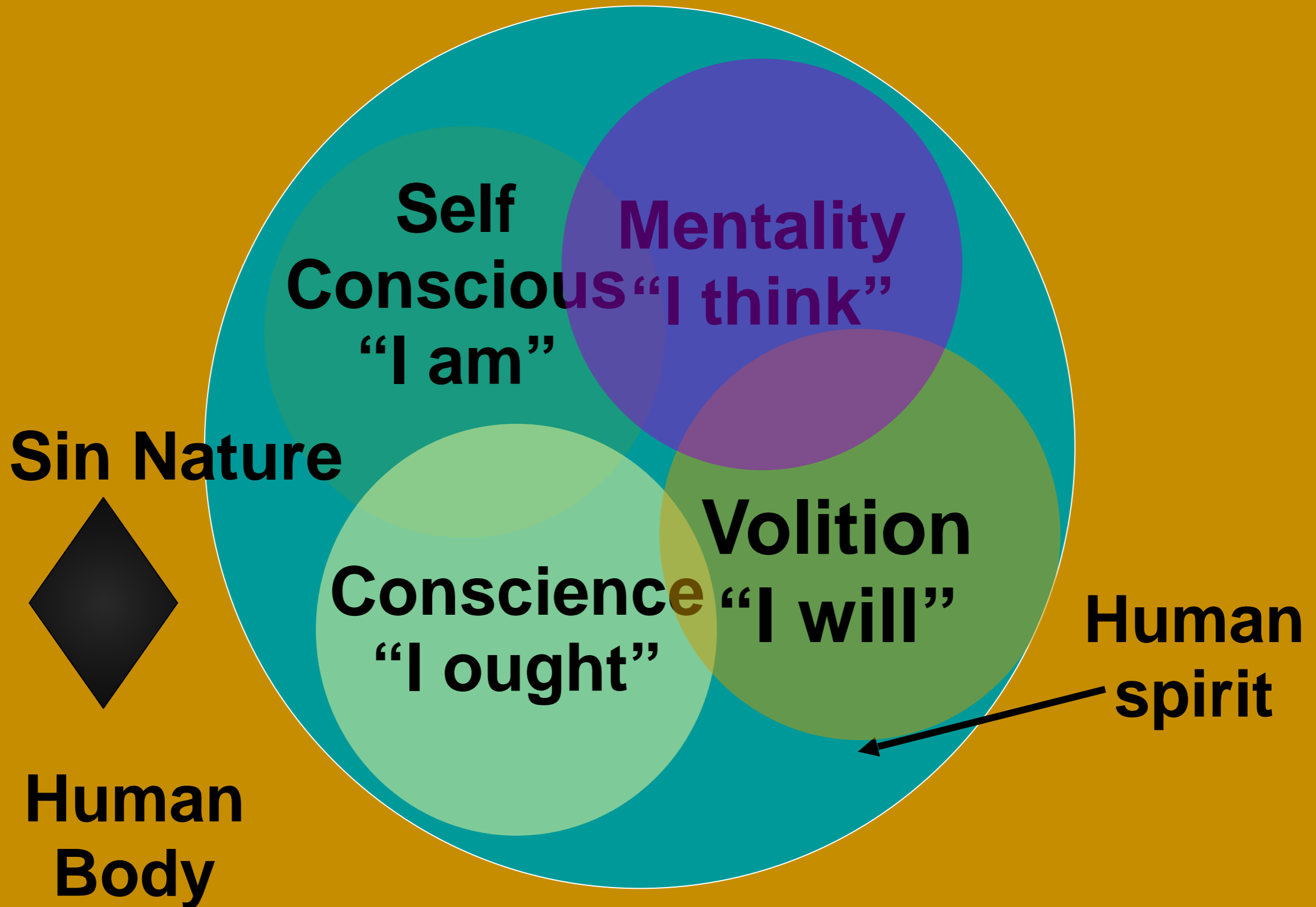
1. The mentality of the soul is where intellectual activity takes place. We plan, calculate, reason, and believe with our minds. Thinking is the battleground of the spiritual life.

The Three Parts of a Human Being: Body, Soul, and Spirit



Human
Body

The Three Parts of a Human Being: Body, Soul, and Spirit



1 Pet. 4:2, “that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men [mankind], but for the will of God.”

**θέλημα *thelēma* gen
neut sing will,
desire**

1 Pet. 4:2, “that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.”

1 Pet. 2:15, “For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—”

1 Pet. 3:17, “For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.”

2. As we grow and mature in life we learn many different things about who we are and why we are important.

- 3. The Bible tells us three important things we must daily believe.**
 - a. We are all created in God's image**
 - b. That image has been corrupted by sin**
 - c. The only solution is**
 - 1) trusting in Christ, and**
 - 2) growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ**
(2 Pet. 3:18)

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

νοῦς *nous*

**gen masc sing
mind, thought,
the place of
reason and
understanding**

1 Pet. 4:2, “that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.”

Matt. 6:33, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

**Prov. 23:7a, “For as he thinks in his heart,
so is he.”**

שָׁעַר (*shā'ar*)

**II, calculate, reckon,
measure (Prov. 23:7)**

4. The conflict in the believer's soul is a conflict of belief: believe the human viewpoint (HVP) or the divine viewpoint (DVP) and act on it.

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HVP is the way man thinks in independence of God.

DVP is the sum total of the Scripture, based on God as Creator, then God as Redeemer and Justifier, then God as the focus of our thinking and lives.

Isa. 55:7, “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; And to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.”

Isa. 55:8, “ ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD.

Isa. 55:9, “ ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

Isa. 55:10, “ ‘For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater,’ ”

Isa. 55:11, “ ‘So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.’ ”

5. Right thinking, the right mental attitude is going to first of all be grounded in grace. Grace is God's plan for dealing with the human race. It is not based on human merit, but divine merit. Therefore God has given us truth.

1 Cor. 2:16, “For ‘who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?’ But we have the mind of Christ.”

6. Human viewpoint (HVP) derives from the independent thinking of the creature who has separated himself from God because of his own rebellion.

Therefore all HVP is characterized by autonomy and arrogance; in the same way Satan's is characterized by autonomy and arrogance.

7. This is the thinking of Satan, reflected in all human systems of thought apart from God.

Jer. 17:9, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?”

8. In contrast, the believer must develop a mental/spiritual toughness based on truth.

This was the thinking Jesus exhibited as He faced his torturers and revilers. It is not simply a physical courage or toughness or a moral courage, but one with a fine-tuned focus on the Scripture which is embedded in our soul.

9. In the process of growth the Bible exposes, evaluates, and reshapes our innermost thoughts, our presuppositions to our hopes and dreams.

Heb. 4:12, “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

***ἐννοια* *ennoia*, thought, knowledge, insight; (NIDNTT); the content of mental processing, *thought, knowledge, insight*, (BDAG); goes beyond simple thought to express resolve to stick with it**

Psa. 139:23, “Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;

Psa. 139:24, “And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

νοῦς *nous*

**gen masc sing
mind, thought,
the place of
reason and
understanding**

Rom. 6:11, “Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom. 6:12, “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.”

**λογίζομαι *logizomai* pres mid
impera 2 plur (y'all)**

**to count, think, reason,
impute, calculate, meditate;
cf., Phil. 4:8**

1 Pet. 4:3, “For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.”

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But who are the Gentiles?

Is this a synonym for unbelievers?
Or is this just a term for Gentiles in contrast to Jews?