

1. Frame of Reference

Remember Dr. Richard Restak's rejection of the idea that the “mind” (or soul) and brain are separate entities in his 1984 book:

Restak, Richard M. *The Brain*. New York: Bantam Books, 1984, page 84:

We may have to revise the old idea that the brain follows the mind's commands . . . that the mind is somehow separate from the brain and that the relationship of the two is similar to that of a commanding officer and his subordinates.

Dr. Restak and his neuroscientist friends are either unable or unwilling to entertain the idea that the human species is born dichotomous, i.e., soul life is imputed by God to biological life at physical birth creating human life.

The human soul may be analyzed under in three categories:

1. *Format Soul*: Mentality and personality both of which are influenced genetically.
2. *Soul Life*: The divinely imputed energy source which causes biological life to become self-sustaining out from the womb.
3. *Soul essence*:
 - a. *Self-consciousness*: Awareness of one's own existence.
 - b. *Mentality*: The thinking part of the soul.
 - c. *Volition*: The decision-making part of the soul.

The mentality of the soul is comprised of two subdivisions:

1. *Nous*, which means mind. This is the staging area for decision-making and problem-solving. Incoming data is accumulated here where it crystallizes as academic understanding.
2. *Kardia* which means heart. This subdivision permeates the entire cerebral cortex. Spiritual information is stored into memory traces in every area of the brain under the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is available for recall to the conscious mind under His power and may be applied to decision-making, problem-solving, or spiritual growth.

Remember the body and its members, including the brain, are corrupted by the sinful nature while the soul, although perfect, is inseparably united to the brain throughout human life.

The soul's influence is neutralized at physical birth by the principle of total depravity and a condition in its mentality which we have referred to as *tabula rasa*. Beginning in infancy, each individual begins to accumulate information which will eventually bring him to an objective understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If the soul's volition responds to the Gospel with an expression of faith alone in Christ alone for eternal life, then that person's soul is saved.

Each soul must use its own volition to make the decision that results in its own salvation. From that point on, volition has the responsibility of responding to divine truth made understandable in its *nous* which results in the Holy Spirit storing that information into the soul's stream of consciousness.

The soul is the invisible life force which permeates the brain but is separate from it. Although the two work in close and intimate coordination, they must be distinguished from one another.

The *kardia*, or heart of the soul, may be described as the spiritual Stream of Consciousness and is itself subdivided into seven compartments:

Frame of Reference**Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, s.v. "frame of reference":**

Facts and ideas serving to orient or give particular meaning. This begins with the learning of language.

American Heritage Dictionary, s.v. "frame of reference":

A system of ideas in terms of which other ideas are interpreted or assigned meaning.

This process begins with the learning and development of a language along with its semantics and syntax. This takes place in Wernicke and Broca's areas.

In spiritual growth, the Holy Spirit develops memory traces for technical terms which give meaning to incoming ideas. With this inventory the believer is able to orient to what is being presented. If any of the incoming information is a part of long-term memory, then it will excite certain memory traces in the frame of reference. It could be a term, a word, a phrase, and idea known to the subject. Thus, the frame of reference serves as the internal stimulus for the recall of associated memory traces.

The frame of reference may be viewed as your soul's index to stored data in the brain. When a given subject in the index is excited, then the frame of reference will search the memory traces and bring up into the conscious mind all pertinent information on file. Nothing in frame of reference means there is nothing on file.