

THE INMATE MINISTRY PRESENTS:
MAPPING THE MIND OF MAN



**WHAT MAKES MAN VASTLY MORE INTELLIGENT THAN OTHER MAMMALS?
WHY CAN'T MAN FIND ANSWERS TO HIS MOST CRITICAL PROBLEMS?
WHAT KEEPS MAN SEARCHING FOR GOD?
DOES THE BIBLE OFFER ANSWERS NEUROSCIENCE HAS MISSED?**

COME EXPLORE THE MYSTERY WITH GARRY W. JOHNSON
SATURDAY RIGHT AFTER MORNING COUNT IN THE CHAPEL
SERVICE STARTS AT 12:00 PM

MAPPING THE MIND OF MAN

Morgan County Correctional Complex, August 10, 2013

Set up DVD, open text book

Opening Prayer

Recently we've had the opportunity to focus on several aspects of man. Last week we looked at the lips, the mouth and the power of the tongue. The week before that, it was the bone and the blood and what's contain therein. And we often have occasion to talk about the "belly" and the "heart" of man. In a sense, that's the area we'll be going into today.

The translators frequently used terms like "belly" and "heart" for Greek words that refer to the core of man, the inner man, his true self, or sometime for words that referred to his feelings or thoughts – and all these things reside in, or originate in the brain – and the brain resides in the head.

The Bible is very expressive when dealing with the make up of God's chief physical creation, mankind, you and me. The human body is even used repeatedly in analogy to represent the Church, which is "fitly joined together" to it's Head, Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:16; Colossians 2:19; 1 Corinthians 11:3 as well as several other places in scripture).

As we have a lot of information to cover we won't have time to look up every verse I'll be referencing, but I will make an effort to tell you what I am reading, and I encourage you to jot it down and go back and put every scripture in its proper context. I'll give you a lot of them in print before we close today, and if you miss anything, I will be happy to talk to you after the service, give you the text and any other information I can.

Today we are going to be talking about man's brain. I came across this article in *The Good News*, and I'm going to share a little bit of it with you today. If you don't already get this publication, you should. It's a free, bi-monthly magazine, its well-researched and well-written and it offers other free materials in almost every article. And I'll give you the contact information before we close today.

This article in *The Good News* is called "Mapping the Brain: The Missing Dimension," and the opening paragraph reads:

"In announcing government investment in continued research into mapping the human

brain, U.S. President Barack Obama rightly stated: 'You know, as humans, we can identify galaxies light years away, we can study particles smaller than an atom. *But we still haven't unlocked the mystery of the three pounds of matter that sits between our ears'* (introducing the BRAIN Initiative, April 2, 2013)."

Now that's a rather tall order, maybe even more so than we realize. We're going to look at a segment here from the first video lecture in *Optimizing Brain Fitness*, from The Great Courses. Terry airs this material during morning count on Mondays and Wednesdays, there are 12 lectures total, and if you're home during the day and you're interested in ways to improve your cognitive ability, these videos are well worth your time. The lecture's name is Richard Restak, and this is what he has to say about mapping the brain. (Play video, Lecture #1, 18:42 – 22:07)

This lecture was copyrighted in 2011, and Restak says we shouldn't expect answers to the layout of the brain in our lifetime. But man's knowledge is growing at unprecedented rates, thanks in part to this organ that scientist can't really explain.

In April of last year, *Wired* magazine published a piece about the 1-million-square-foot NSA data-storage facility in Utah, where the government is storing all of our phone calls, emails, web searches and other communications. Restack said it would take 100 million terabytes to store the images of the human brain. That's a 1 with 20 - 0's behind it. The NSA facility is capable of storing one yottabyte, that's a septillion bytes, or a 1 with 24 - 0's behind it. So we have the capacity, if we're willing to borrow the money.

Recent news / Snoden

This is what *Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behavior* (it's a college-level textbook) has to say in its opening comments on the brain:

“The three pounds of protein, fat, and fluid that you carry around inside your skull ***is the real you***. It is also ***the most complex structure in the known universe*** and the only one that can wonder about itself.”

King David said in Psalms 139, “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” He recognized God's astounding handiwork (v. 14).

“As befits this biological marvel, your brain is the most active energy consumer of all your body organs. Although your brain accounts for only about 2% of your total body weight, it consumes about 25% of your body's oxygen and 70% of its glucose. (Blood glucose is the major free sugar circulating in the blood of higher animals. It is the source of energy in

cell function. [neurons are brain cells]). Moreover, the brain never rest; its rate of energy metabolism is relatively constant day and night. In fact, when you dream, the brain's metabolic rate actually increases slightly (Hobson, 1996).

The textbook says the human brain is “the most complex structure in the known universe,” not nebulas, not super novas, not black holes – the brain, out of everything science has discovered, is the most complex. And yet, as a paradox, its very simple - “three pounds of protein, fat, and fluid.”

The book then asks ...

“How can this rather nondescript blob of grayish tissue discover the principle of relativity, build the Hubble Space Telescope, and produce great works of art, music, and literature?”

After six thousand years of contemplation, scientists are still stumped by the brain. They know what it does, they just can't explain how. So they continue to watch, speculate, to record the physical information, while the answer alludes them.

Some of the methods they have come up with to monitor what's going on in the brain are pictured here (hold up textbook). And we're going to pass this book around. The most impressive, I think, and the newest is the functional MRI, (magnetic resonance imaging) pictured down here at the bottom. It offers a three dimensional view of the brain and records images almost in real time (pass book around).

This section closes by saying: “Advances in brain research represent an important frontier of psychology. Driven by its intense desire to 'know thyself,' (Peter Abelard, 1079-1142, French theologian and philosopher) the brain is beginning to yield its many secrets. Yet many important questions remain. This should not surprise us, for as one observer noted, 'If the brain were so simple that we could understand it, we would be so simple that we couldn't.'”

One thing scientist never like to admit is that they don't know something or that they don't have an explanation, and you have to wonder just how simple the brain would need to get for us to understand it, physically. We don't yet understand even animal brains, some of which are smaller like the worm we saw, others are much larger than our own – and yet there exists a huge gulf between their capabilities and ours.

What scientist are missing isn't any physical component. We can see what the brain does, how it reacts, how it changes with use.

But what frustrates scientists most about the brain is what frustrates them about life itself – they can't recreate it, reproduce it, or even fully explain it. That's because the answer they are looking for isn't physical, it's not material ... **its spiritual**. They study the brain, but their questions actually concern **the mind**, human consciousness, the fact that we are self-aware, our ability to reason, to plan, to contemplate abstract ideas ... our ability to develop character.

In trying to reproduce life, in cloning, and genetic research, scientist always have to start with a human embryo, a human egg or a stem cell – something they extract from existing life. As the Bible explains, life begets life. We may be able to manipulate it, but we cannot make it from nonliving material. This is one of the big setbacks to evolutionary theory, the idea that life spontaneously arrived by lightening striking a special mix of chemicals in a primordial soup.

Scientists know that everything we are made of, physically, is found in the dirt – the body is earthly (John 3:31; 2 Corinthians 5:1), even this “nondescript blob of grayish tissue”. Scientists also know that life requires **power**, so lightening, I guess, is the best they could imagine apart from God.

A famous atheist, Mark Twain (1835-1910) once said that “Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to the possibilities; truth isn't.” Jesus asked His Father concerning His disciples to “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17).

So for the sake of true science, let's not leave any stone unturned. Let's see what the Bible says about man's creation, and see if scripture offers us an explanation as to why man is so different from the other forms of life we find all around us.

If you will, open your Bibles to the book of Genesis, chapter 1, and verse 20. Genesis 1:20 (pause).

We find in Genesis an explanation that again defies what man can recreate in a lab, starting with that **Power** source most scientists refuse to acknowledge. Verse 2 tells us, “the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

3 ¶And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

The book of Psalms says in 33:9 “For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast,” and Psalms 104:30 says “Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.” There's the **power**, the **method** and the **truth**.

The creation of the atmosphere, plants, day, night and seasons followed in short order. The animals arrived on days five and six:

Genesis 1:20 ¶And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.
21 And God created great whales, and every living **creature** that moveth,

The word, “creature” is used three times between verse 20 and 24. It is translated from the Hebrew noun *nephesh, neh'-fesh*; from 5314; properly, **a breathing creature, i.e. (that is to say) animal of (abstractly) vitality; used very widely in a literal, accommodated or figurative sense (bodily or mental):** — any, appetite, **beast, body, breath**, creature, X dead(-ly), desire, X (dis-) contented, X fish, ghost, + greedy, he, **heart(-y)**, (hath, X jeopardy of) life (X in jeopardy), lust, **man, me, mind, mortally, one**, own, **person**, pleasure, (her-, him-, my-, thy-) **self**, them (your) -selves, + slay, **soul**, + tablet, they, thing, (X she) will, X would have it.

And in this chapter, twice it is rendered “**life**,” in verses 20 and 30. This word “nephesh” is important to our understanding. It means physical, mortal life.

21 And God created great whales, and every living **creature** (every nephesh) that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, **after their kind**, and every winged fowl **after his kind**: and God saw that it was good.

22 **And God blessed them**, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

Just like He would for man on the morrow, He blessed the sea creatures and the birds ...

23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

24 ¶And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living **creature** ... **after his kind**, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth **after his kind**: and it was so.

25 And God made the beast of the earth **after his kind**, and cattle **after their kind**, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth **after his kind**: and God saw that it was good.

God had a design for these animals ...

26 ¶And God said, **Let us** make man **in our image, after our likeness**: and **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man **in his own image**, in the image of God created he him; male and

female created he them.

28 **And God blessed them**, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: **and have dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Every creature, every “nephesh” God created after its own kind – the creatures of the water, the fowl of the air, the bugs and the cattle, all after their own “kind.” But man was created in God's “image” after His “likeness,” and though God is Spirit and man is physical, he was none the less created after the God kind.

Unlike the other creatures man could reason, he could be responsible, he had forethought, he could contemplate consequences, and one of the first things God did was give him a job: “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: **and have dominion** over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”

Man was put in charge and that dominion was only possible because of man's mind – not his brain, but his mind. The King James Bible doesn't use the word “brain” anywhere, it is only concerned with the “mind,” what's housed in the brain, the seat of consciousness.

If lions and tigers and bears could organize a rebellion, we would not be on the top of the food chain. That's why “Planet of the Apes” was so disturbing ... Some monkeys have as much as 98% of our DNA, yet they can't clean a glock or strategize a military campaign ...

But we can, because we have something that they don't, something that goes beyond the physical. All living creatures have a spark of life from our Creator, but man has something more: where animals have instinct, man has intellect.

Verse 24 says “let **the earth** bring forth the living creatures” Ecclesiastes tells us in chapter 3 and 12 that man is connected with God in a special way. In the same way, the animals are connected with the earth. But I am getting ahead of myself ...

Turn over to chapter two and verse seven. Genesis 2:7. Here we are given the specifics of man's origin.

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and **breathed into his nostrils** the breath of life; and man **became a living soul**.

Remember that word, nephesh? That's the same word translated here as “soul.” It means **a breathing creature**, a physical existence, there is nothing mystical or other-

worldly about it. As brother Adam pointed out last week, it simply means “life.” Just like the other creature that God formed, man was physically alive, but he was still different.

The popular concepts of the immortal soul we're all familiar with come not from scripture, but from the writings of Greek philosophy. The words “immortal soul” do not appear together anywhere in the entirety of the Bible. In fact, scripture tell us twice that only God has immortality (1 Timothy 1:17; 6:16).

And in Ezekiel 18 God tells us twice again, “the soul that sinneth, it shall die,” (vv. 4, 20) just like He told Eve before the fall. So a soul isn't something you have, its something you are. “Man became a living soul.” A mortal man, with a mortal body, as is stated in the book of Job and the letter to the Romans (4:17; 6:12).

So if the “soul” isn't what makes man different, as Hollywood and pop culture would have us believe, what is it? What is it that so-called science keeps searching for, but just can't find? Turn over to Job chapter 32 and verse 8; Job 32:8

Here in the middle of expressing that idea that I so often like to quote “With age comes wisdom, but sometimes age comes alone,” Job strikes to the heart of man's intellect:

Job 32:8 But there is a spirit in man: and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding. (NKJV)

Remember what we read in Genesis 2:7? God “breathed into His nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.” God formed a body from the dust of the ground, in His image and then animated that body with the human spirit – that's what made man different. That's what gave him his mind – and that's why secular scientist can't explain the brain. The brain alone, with all its complexity and all its simplicity, is not capable of the astonishing output we see everyday – especially in this end time when knowledge is being increased by leaps and bounds (Daniel 12:4).

Zechariah 12:1 says that God “stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.” It is this spirit that gave man life at his creation, that gave him a mind capable of communicating with his Creator.

The spirit in man is that substance that links man with heaven ... (Expound on what Ecclesiastes says about the spirit in man and the spirit in beasts). It's the spirit in man that keeps him searching for God. It's that spark of life, that only comes from existing life, and cannot be created in a lab.

1 Corinthians 2:11 starts off by saying “For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?” Every thing man knows, everything he is capable of learning, comes from the human spirit within him. And at the same time, all the evil man is capable of comes through that same spirit.

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25).

That is the way of man – the self-reliant, self-centered attitude this world fosters. When Satan encountered Eve in the garden, he told her that first lie: “Ye will not surely die” and “you will be like God, knowing good and evil” (Genesis 3:4&5, NKJV). “You'll be immortal, and you'll be brilliant!” And she took from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and her and her husband forfeited their dominion that day to one the Bible calls “the god of this world” little “g” (2 Corinthians 4:4) and “the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2).

Adam and Eve still had that human spirit, that spark of life, even after the fall, but they had imprinted it with their rebellion. Proverbs 20:27 says ¶The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly. God knows us by our spirit, right down to our core.

Genesis 3:20 ¶And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. All of us come from this original pair, and we are all born into this ready-made world, a world in rebellion.

Ephesians 2:2 says “in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air.” Satan directs the course of this world as the prince of the power of the air. We know from Jesus' ministry that demons are busy here and we're warn about “familiar spirits” and “seducing spirits,” and we're told to cast “down imaginations” and to “bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:5).

You ever wonder why the battle in our minds is so fierce? Why its so hard to control your thoughts, dreams, those fleeting ideas that seem to pop-up from nowhere?

It's hard because Satan is a master broadcaster. In Ezekiel 28:13 it says that Satan “hast been in Eden the garden of God” and God says to him “the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.” God's handy work gave Satan a wonderful voice. Verses 5, 16 & 18, reference his salesmanship, merchandise and his trafficking – he's a smooth talker with a beautiful voice, which he

undoubtedly loves to use.

But how does he get into your head? How does he work “in the children of disobedience”? How does he go about deceiving the whole world, as it says in Revelation 12:9? How does he influence powers and principalities? It's through the spirit – the spirit in man; the spirit of this world.

We have a set of satellite receivers that pick up a microwave radio band, which we get our television signal from. Those microwaves are invisible to the naked eye – so are the wavelengths that operate the guard's radios, cell phones, AM and FM and stereo signals, plane and boat navigation and local television. All those signals are bouncing around in the air all around us, and if you have the right equipment, you can tune them in.

By analogy, Satan works the same way, but he broadcast in attitudes, emotions, fears, evil surmisings, hatred ...

This is what a radio wave looks like ... this is a television signal ...(explain poster)

Do you remember this EEG readout? (electroencephalogram.) I have one more video clip for you and a handout. This is from one of the older education tapes and sound quality is poor. (show video and pass out material)

Your brain functions off of electrical impulses that can be generated from a wide range of stimulus. With the spirit in man, you have the equipment to tune into a spiritual broadcast.

Fortunately for us, God can use this same avenue into the mind of rebellious man. We see it in 2 Chronicles 36:22, where God “stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom” to rebuild Jerusalem. Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel, “was driven from men” and mad, and we see positive results of it in the Church of God, of whom Jesus Christ said, “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day” (John 6:44).

If we respond to God's calling in obedience and faith, there is another Spirit that is offered to man, One that cannot be corrupted, One that offers us a new dimension in knowledge, an understanding beyond the spirit of man.

Turn over to 1 Corinthians, chapter 2 and verse 11. 1 Corinthians 2:11

1 Corinthians 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man

which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Paul is talking to converted believers here when he says ...

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy (Spirit) teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

That's why secular science can't explain the brain, that's why they grapple with life ...

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

The spirit in man puts us high above the animals, but without the Spirit of God we'll never fully understand why. God's Spirit, that earnest or down payment on eternal life, combines with our spirit, the spirit in man, to create a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

It's by God's Spirit that He writes His laws into our *mind* <1271> and in our *hearts* <2588> (Hebrews 8:10).

The Greek for mind here means "deep thought," understanding, it speaks to our intellect. The word "heart" means general thoughts, our feelings, and it speaks to our emotions. It's the reason we get chocked up when we hear certain truth, or when we find truth in an unexpected place, or when we see God's handy work in an unexpected way.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

That's how it works. Man has a spirit and God has a Spirit. You were born with one and in need of the other. If you have not received the later, and you feel God is drawing you today, go to Him in prayer and ask Him to direct you. Ask that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to "be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Ephesians 4:23, 24).

And if you have set your heart to find the true God at the expense of all else, I will set my heart to help you in that quest, any way I can. You can find me six days a week in the compound library, and on the seventh day, you'll find me right here.

“The crowning feature of brain development is the *cerebral cortex*, the biological seat of Einstein's scientific genius, Mozart's creativity, Saddam Hussein's brutality, Mother Teresa's compassion, and that which makes you a unique human being” – *Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behavior*.

Luke 10:27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind <1271>; and thy neighbour as thyself.

Acts 17:11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind <4288>, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

(4288) *proqumi>a*, — *proth-oo-mee'-ah*; from **(4289)** (*pro>qumov*); *predisposition*, i.e. *alacrity*: — forwardness of mind, readiness (of mind), ready (willing) mind.

Romans 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Romans 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Romans 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Romans 8:27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

1 Corinthians 1:10 ¶ Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Ephesians 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the

children of wrath, even as others.

Ephesians 4:17 ¶¶This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

Ephesians 4:23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Philippians 1:27 ¶¶Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Philippians 2:2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Philippians 4:2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound *mind*.

(4995) swfronismo>v, — *so-fron-is-mos'*; from **(4994) (swfJroni>zw)**; *discipline*, i.e. *self-control*: — sound mind.

Hebrews 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their *mind* <1271>, and write them in their *hearts* <2588>: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

(2588) *kardi>a*, — *kar-dee'-ah*; prolonged from a primary *ka>r* (Latin *cor*, “*heart*”); the *heart*, i.e. (figurative) the *thoughts* or *feelings* (*mind*); also (by analogy) the *middle*: — (+ broken-) heart (-ed).

(2836) *koili>a*, — *koy-lee'-ah*; from *koi~lov* (“*hollow*”); a *cavity*, i.e. (special) the *abdomen*; by implication the *matrix*; figurative the *heart*: — belly, womb.

{3820} *ble* — *leb*, *labe*; a form of 3824; the heart; also used (figuratively) very widely for the feelings, the will and even the intellect; likewise for the centre of anything: — + care for, comfortably, consent, X considered, courag(-eous), friend(-ly), ((broken-), (hard-), (merry-), (stiff-), (stout-), double) heart((-ed)), X heed, X I, kindly, midst, mind(-ed), X regard((-ed)), X themselves, X unawares, understanding, X well, willingly, wisdom.