

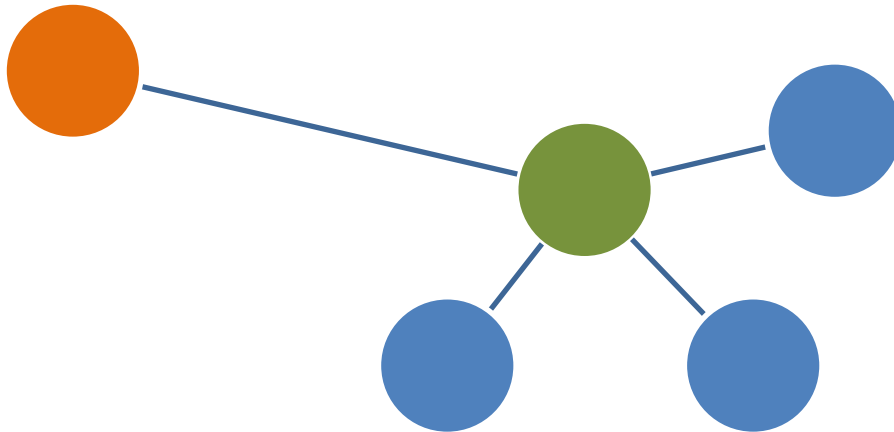
Living a Wholehearted Life

The Problem of Fragmentation

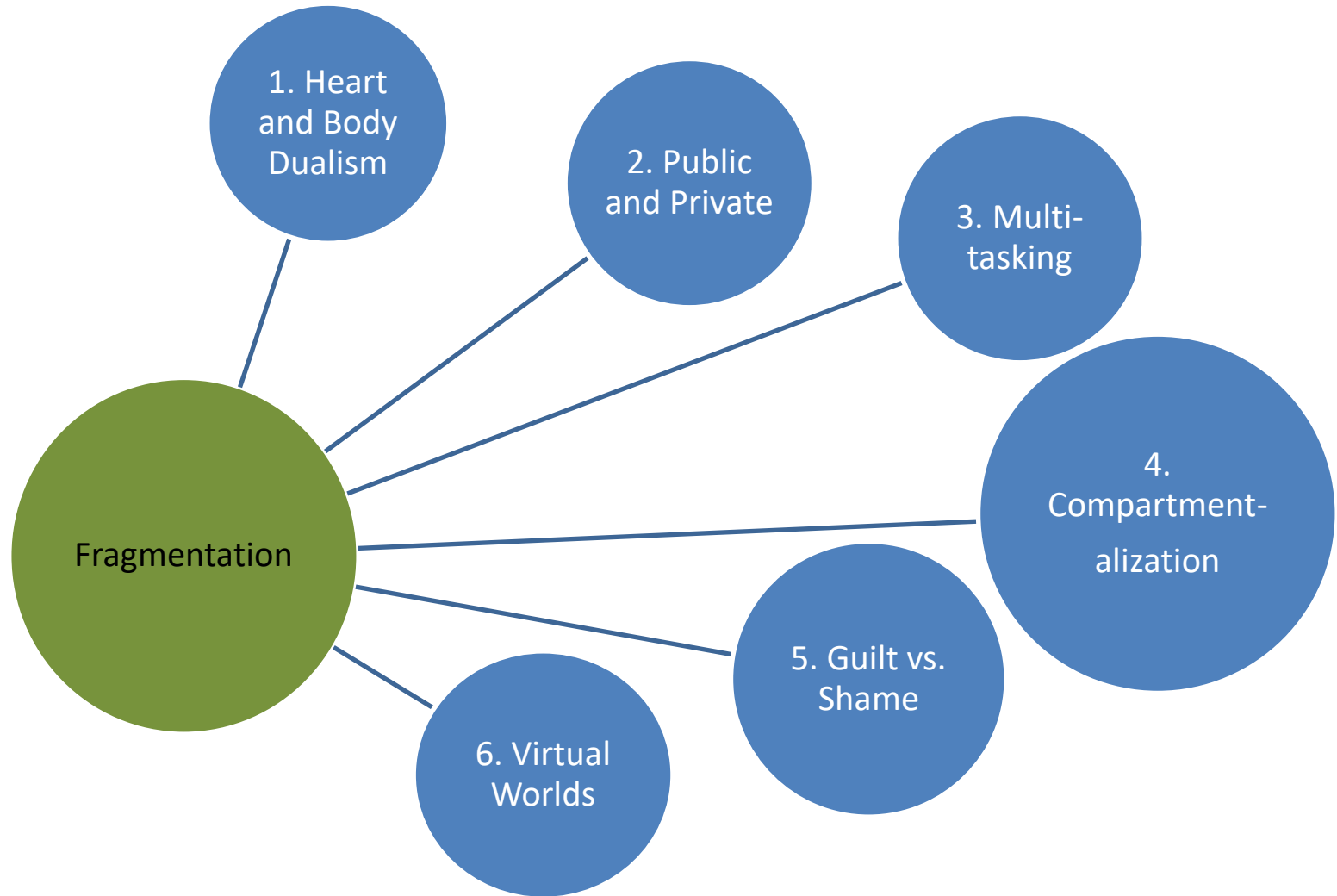
The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: **Shema**

The Christ of Biblical Wholeness: **Priestly Prayer**

The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness: **Walking in Light**



The Problem of Fragmentation



The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

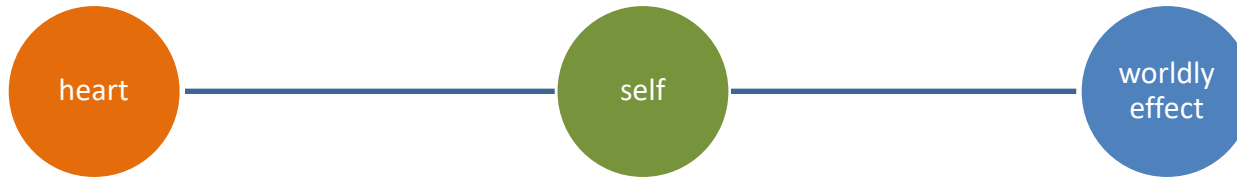
Shema (Deut 6:4-9)

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deut 6:4-9

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: Shema (Deut 6:4-9)



Divine Identity

- Covenantal God “Our God”
- Singular God “One God”

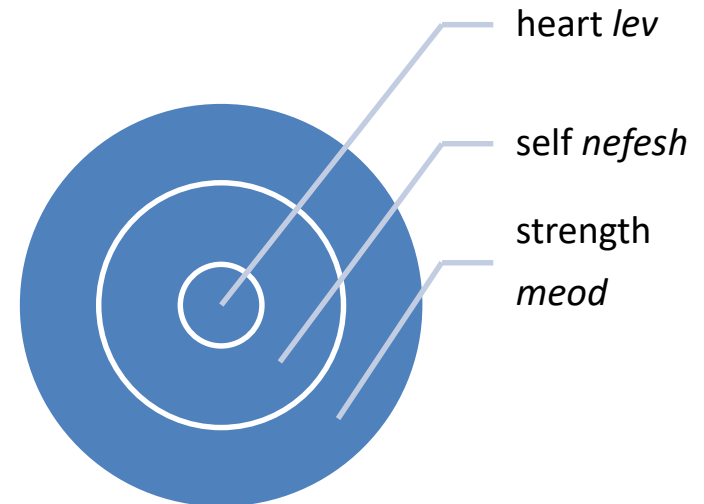
People’s Response

- Covenantal Love
- Singular Love (whole of human life)

heart *lev*: inner person, volition, thought
“write on your heart”

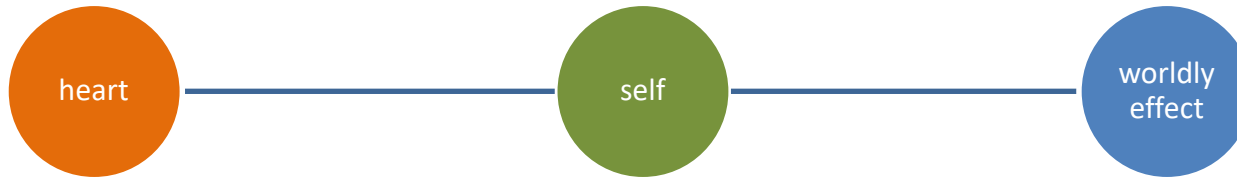
self/soul *nefesh*: whole person, body, self

strength *meod*: worldly effect, power, estate,
leverage



The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

Shema (Deut 6:4-9)



The Gift of Surrender

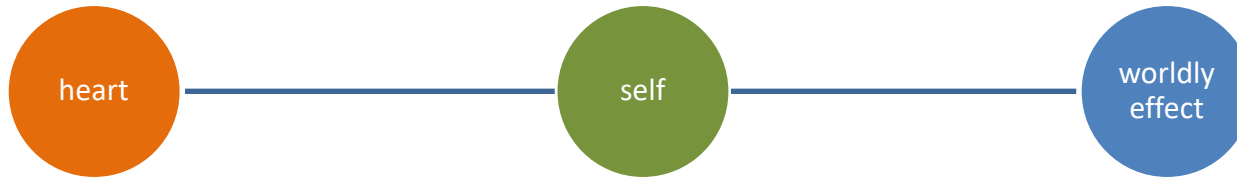
Search me, O God, and know my heart!

Try me and know my thoughts!

*And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!*

(Psa 139:23-24)

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: Shema (Deut 6:4-9)



The Gift of Repentance

*Identify beliefs and behaviors that obstruct wholeness
mystical and ordinary experience*

*Confess to God and others (varying degrees of intimacy)
“thick” description of confession*

Ask the Lord for wholeness of heart, self, and strength

(Rinse and Repeat)

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

Shema (Jeremiah)

1. Jeremiah the Man: Historical Background

1.1 Of a priestly family from Anathoth, he considers himself “too young” (1:6-7) during his call (perhaps 12 years or younger).

1.2 Ministry 627—587/586 B.C.

Though book was compiled perhaps in stages after the 586 B.C. (in Egypt?): note the reference to Jehoiachin’s favor during the reign of Evil Merodach (Akk. Awil-Marduk) around 562-560 (Jer 52:31-34//2 Kings 25).

1.2 Judahite Kings

Josiah 640-609 (religious reforms; 2 Chron 34:3)

Jehoahaz 609—Jehoiakim 609-598 (First Deportation 605)—Jehoiachin 598-597 (Second Deportation 597)—Zedekiah 597-586 (Third Deportation 586)

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

Shema (Jeremiah)

1.3 Geopolitical Events

1.3.1 First Phase (Relative Peace and Faithfulness)

Major Players (Egypt and Assyria)

b) Josiah comes to the throne at age 8 (640 BC 1 Kings 22:1,2; 2 Chron 34:1).

c) Reigned till 609 B.C. His many reforms were due to the finding of the book of the Law (622); Judah's story seemed to be changing for the better after the long corrupt reign of Hezekiah's son Manasseh (2 Kgs 21:1–21; 23:26; 24:3; Jer 15:4; cf. 2 Chronicles 33)

1.3.2 Second Phase (Hostility and Fall)

Major Players (Egypt and Babylon)

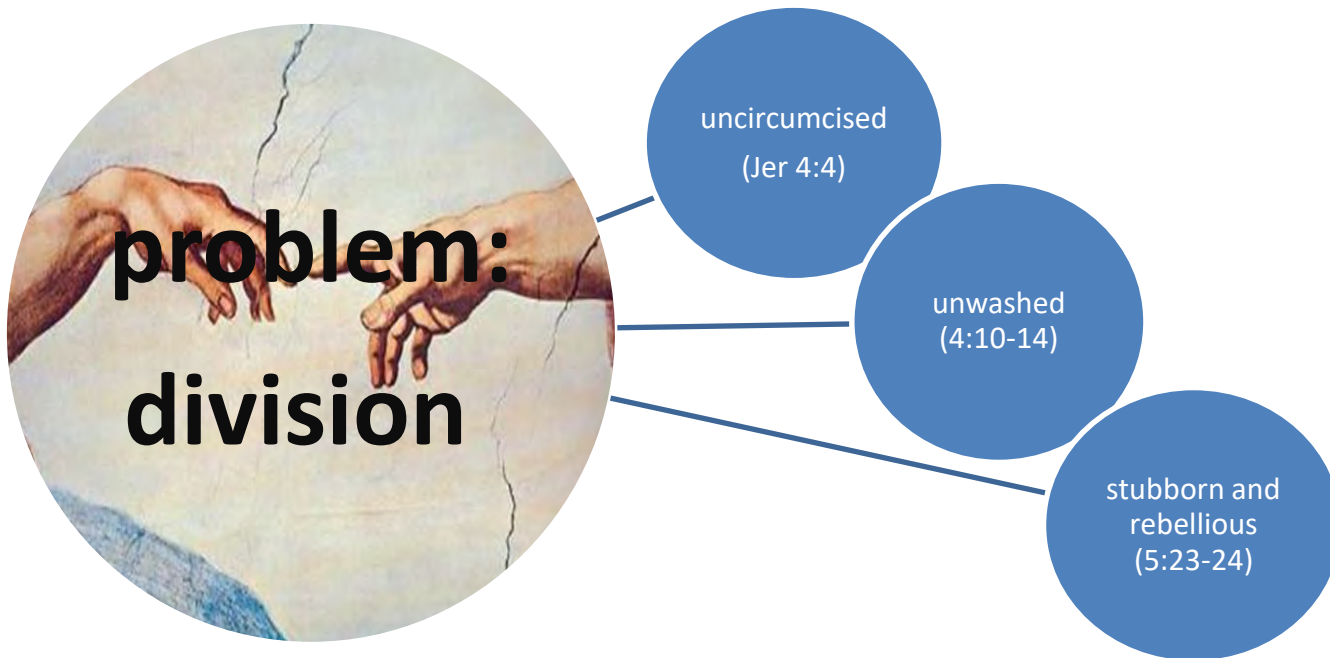
a) Fall of Nineveh (612)

b) Death of Josiah (609) and subsequent apostasy

c) Babylon defeats Egypt at Battle of Carchemish (605)

d) Babylonian Invasion/Deportations (605, 597, 586)

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: Shema (Jeremiah)



The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

Shema (Jeremiah)

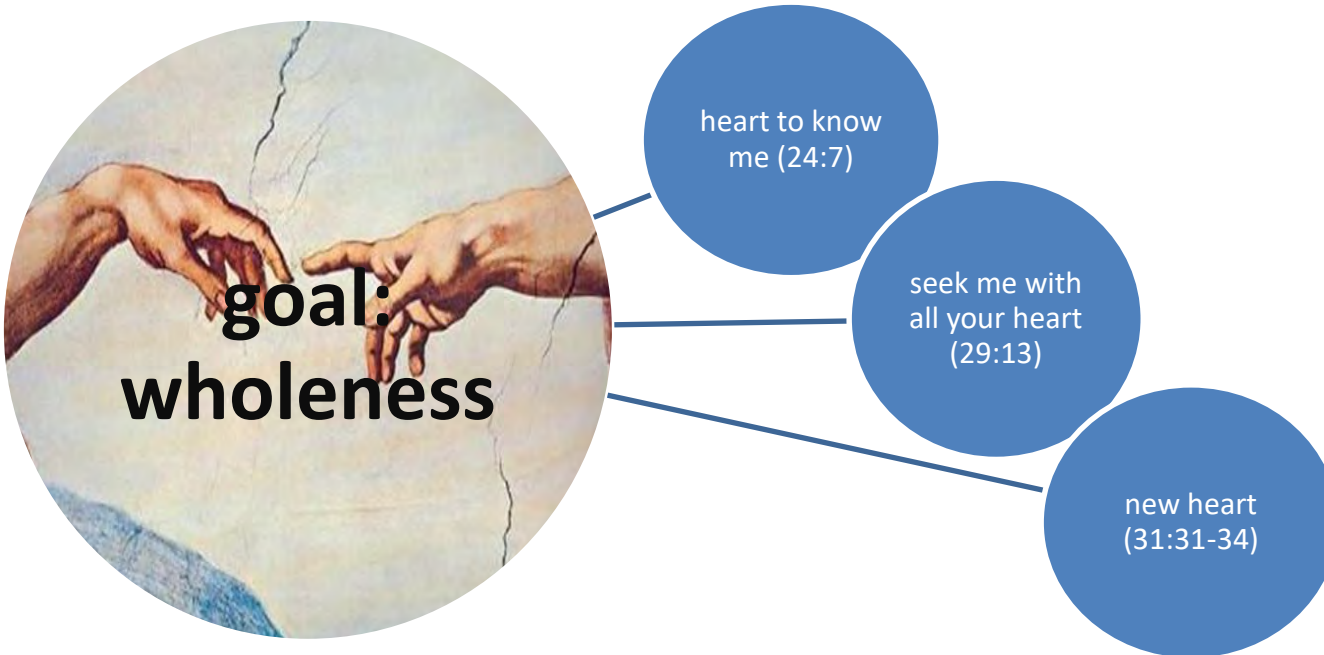


She saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and prostituted herself. Because she took her prostitution lightly, she polluted the land, committing adultery with stone and tree.

Yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah did not return to me with her whole heart, but in pretense, declares the LORD."

Jer 3:8-10

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: Shema (Jeremiah)



The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

Shema (Jeremiah)



Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Jer 31:31–34.

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: Shema (Jeremiah)



The new covenant that provides a future hope for Israel as a nation totters on the brink of devastation involves points of continuity with past covenantal dealings as well as points of radical newness. The torah of the Lord shall be in effect, but now this law shall be inscribed on the hearts of God's people rather than on cold stone tablets. Sins shall be removed, but apart from the repetitious offering of sacrifices. Knowledge of the Lord shall be the essence of the new covenant relation, but no teachers shall be needed to inculcate this knowledge.

O. Palmer Robertson, *The Christ of the Covenants*, 217.

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness:

Shema (Jeremiah)

When will these things take place?

1. The exile will end when Israel repents (Lev 26:40; Deut 30:1-3)
2. Daniel attempts to initiate this repentance by himself (9:1-19)
3. Christ's Early Ministry
 - Out of Egypt I called my Son (Matt 2:15; Hos 11:1)
 - Baptism by John (Matt 3:13-17)
 - "This is my beloved son..."*
 - Temptation in the wilderness for 40 days (Matt 4:1-11)
4. The kingdom arrives in Israel (Matt 4:17; Isa 9:1-2)
5. Law written on hearts? (Acts 2; 2 Cor 3:3)

The Heart of Biblical Wholeness: **Shema (Jeremiah)**

And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2 Cor 3:3.

The Christ of Biblical Wholeness: High Priestly Prayer (John 17)



The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness:

Walking in the Light

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:5-10

The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness:

Walking in the Light

A Brief Redemptive History of Light

God Creates Light

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. Gen 1:3–5.

Light Registers God’s Presence

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD my God, you are very great!
You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
covering yourself with light as with a garment,
stretching out the heavens like a tent. Ps 104:1–2.

The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness:

Walking in the Light

A Brief Redemptive History of Light

Light Registers God's Favor

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Num 6:24–26.

Light Registers Restoration

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

Isa 9:1–2

The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness:

Walking in the Light

A Brief Redemptive History of Light

The Case of Simeon

Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.

Luke 2:29-32

The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness: Walking in the Light



The Fellowship of Biblical Wholeness:

Walking in the Light

How to Walk in the Light

- 1. Be Light.**
- 2. Engage What the Gospel Exposes**
- 3. Shine the Light of Christ on Yourself**