

HIGHTOWER

Mr. Barry! Welcome! This is a surprise. You may be just the fellow for this! How good of you to join us.

BARRY

Thank you for having...

HIGHTOWER

What exactly is the soul? I know philosophers have pondered that question since ancient times.

BARRY

We know this from Genesis. We were made in his image. "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." This breath of life is the soul.

HIGHTOWER

Oh, Barty, it is so much fun to argue with a man with actual knowledge on his subject!

BILLINGS

Bah!

HIGHTOWER

And where does this breath exist? In the lungs?

BARRY

No, Dr. Hightower. It is not like the air we breathe. It resides in the mind.

HIGHTOWER

And where does the mind reside?

BILLINGS

Some would argue the heart, others the brain. It is not certain.

HIGHTOWER

Shush Barty! It is Mr. Barry's turn. Rene Descartes coined the brain as the "seat of the soul", as he believed it provided people with a medium from which our soul could be expressed through our physicality. What do you say?

BARRY

The brain, I suppose, but...

HIGHTOWER

So, by logic, if a man was, say, injured in the brain, he could damage or lose his soul and therefore no longer be considered a

man at all.

BILLINGS

You are reaching, Robert.

BARRY

I suppose it is possible...

HIGHTOWER

Did not Dr. Harlow report that Phineas had been not been accepted to his old railroad position due to his vulgarities and animal-like propensities?

BIGELOW

Well, yes but that is just hearsay...

HIGHTOWER

And that he had become uncontrollable and changed in demeanor? I surmise that this crowbar destroyed the part of the brain which houses Phineas's spirit and therefore his humanity. Mr. Barry, what does the book of James tell us about the body in regard to the spirit?

BARRY

"The body without the spirit is dead."

HIGHTOWER

Chapter two, verse twenty six. It is the body that is dead without the soul, not the soul without the body. Hence, Mr. Page is a walking, talking corpse.

BILLINGS

Gage.

HIGHTOWER

Whatever his name is. I rest my case.

BILLINGS

Well, my boy, surely you must have a counter argument?

BARRY

I...

(Barry clears his throat.)

BARRY

God... You see. I think that...

HIGHTOWER

Pity. Not to worry, my boy. You'll develop more of a skill for

rhetic and discourse as you progress with your studies.

(Barry takes a stab.)

BARRY

I think the things which are seen like the body are temporary. The things which are not seen, the soul, are eternal.

BILLINGS

Yes! Good!

BARRY

It was the apostle Paul who contrasted the "outward man" (who is decaying) with the "inward man" (who is "being renewed day by day"). It seems that Phineas is in this renewal.

BILLINGS

Yes! Renewal is what...

BARRY

Your question is, are the "outward" and "inward" man two different kinds of entities or are they two aspects of the same thing. It seems that we can dispense with the latter, for if we are to think they are only two aspects then the apostle would have said they either decay together or are being renewed together. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that things can happen to the "outward man" that cannot happen to the "inward man," despite their deep unity.

BIGELOW

Ooh the boy speaks true! Keep it going, lad. What is this inward man?

BARRY

Scripture is clear: a human being is more than a material or physical body. The person is the soul and has a body. It would therefore be simply wrong to think that the soul does not continue to live after the destruction of the body. The soul is not destroyed because the body is not whole. Therefore, try as you may, you cannot say that Phineas is less of a human because of his injury.

BILLINGS

And the match goes to young Dr. Barry! Robert it seems you have been bested!

BIGELOW

I say, good show my boy!