

# Wounded Human Nature

*Man is the only animal who blushes . . . or needs to.*

- Mark Twain

- Hinduism - Maya. Illusion.
- Buddhism - Dukkha. Samsara
- Judaism, Christianity, Islam -- ....

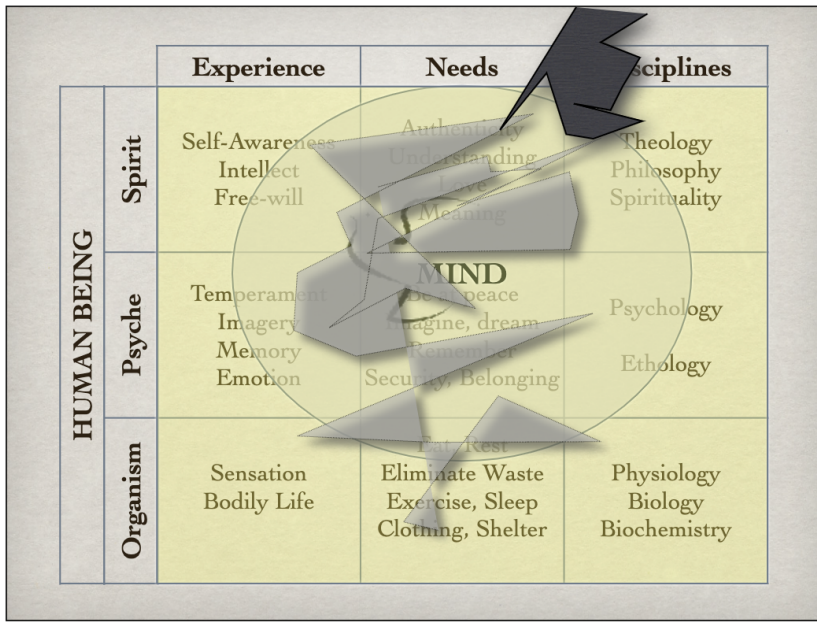


## What is Sin?

- **A power** at work in the world.
- **A social situation.** Values, movements and tendencies in the culture that do harm to human life and creation -- e.g., injustice.
- **A personal act.** *"Offense against God as well as a fault against reason, truth, and right conscience."* CCC
- **A condition** of disharmony and woundedness that we're born into because of non-love. (Original Sin)

## False Self System

- **Conditioning** we develop to compensate for the pain and disharmony of Original Sin and Social Sin.  
- not a real "self"
- Inner commitment to "make oneself OK" by having, getting, associating-with, doing, being better-than. . .
- Pervades self-image, emotion, memory, imagination (psyche).
- Biases the functioning of the human spirit (inauthenticity).
- Inherently suspicious of grace/unconditional love.
- Vulnerable to evil spirit.



## Origin of the False Self System

Perception of conditionally loving environment

- one is conditionally loveable and acceptable
- shame, fear, resentment

- Defensive contraction of energy and attention away from the environment.
  - inner disharmony; ego-centricity; loss of sense of divine within.
- Internalization of "rules" on "how to be OK" from the environment.
  - mind focused on "how to be OK?" issues.

	Personhood	Behavior
Approval	Positive	Positive
Shame	Negative	Negative
Affirmation	Positive	Positive
Discipline	Positive	Negative