

The Resurrection of Believers

1 Corinthians 15:35-53 – Someone may ask, “How will the dead be raised? What kind of bodies will they have?”³⁶ What a foolish question! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn’t grow into a plant unless it dies first.³⁷ And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a bare seed of wheat or whatever you are planting.³⁸ Then God gives it the new body he wants it to have. A different plant grows from each kind of seed.³⁹ Similarly there are different kinds of flesh—one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish.⁴⁰ There are also bodies in the heavens and bodies on the earth. The glory of the heavenly bodies is different from the glory of the earthly bodies.⁴¹ The sun has one kind of glory, while the moon and stars each have another kind. And even the stars differ from each other in their glory.⁴² Our earthly bodies, which die and decay, will be different when they are resurrected, for they will never die.⁴³ Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength.⁴⁴ They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies.⁴⁵ The Scriptures tell us, “The first man, Adam, became a living person.” But the last Adam—that is, Christ—is a life-giving Spirit.⁴⁶ What comes first is the natural body, then the spiritual body comes later.⁴⁷ Adam, the first man, was made from the dust of the earth, while Christ, the second man, came from heaven.⁴⁸ Every human being has an earthly body just like Adam’s but our heavenly bodies will be just like Christ’s.⁴⁹ Just as we are now like Adam, the man of the earth, so we will someday be like Christ, the man from heaven.

⁵¹ Let me tell you a wonderful secret God has revealed to us. Not all of us will die, but we will be transformed.⁵² It will happen in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, the Christians who have died will be raised with transformed bodies. And then we who are living will be transformed so that we will never die.⁵³ For our perishable earthly bodies must be transformed into heavenly bodies that will never die.

- 1) Christians will get new bodies when Jesus returns. (v.52)**
- 2) Our new bodies will never die. (v.42)**
- 3) Our new bodies will have power and glory. (v.43)**
- 4) Our new bodies will be like Christ’s resurrected body. (v.48-49)**

What Was Jesus’ Resurrected Body Like?

Philippians 3:20-21 - Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Luke 24:30-43, 51-52 - As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them.³¹ Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!³² They said to each other, “Didn’t our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?”

³³ And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them,³⁴ who said, “The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter.”³⁵ Then the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road, and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread.

³⁶ And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. “Peace be with you,” he said.³⁷ But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost!³⁸ “Why are you frightened?” he asked. “Why are your hearts filled with doubt?”³⁹ Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it’s really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don’t have bodies, as you see that I do.”

⁴⁰ As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.⁴¹ Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder. Then he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he ate it as they watched.⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven.⁵² So they worshiped him and then returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy.

- 1) He was able to talk to them.**
- 2) His body could defy gravity. (v.51)**
- 3) His body could appear and disappear. (v.31,36)**
- 4) He was able to eat. (v.41-42)**
- 5) His body looked like a body. (v.39-40)**
- 6) His body was recognizable. (v.31)**