

1 Corinthians 15 - Resurrection

What Happens After We Die...?

Reincarnation?...Cease to Exist?...Heaven or hell - how to get there?...God wants us to know - **hope**

Background

- Statements were being made ... v12 “There is no resurrection”
- Some were asking ... “How are the dead raised?” What kind of body?”

The Gospel Paul Preached

1Co 15:3-4 ESV For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

Proof of the Resurrection

The gospel was preached by eyewitnesses of the resurrection

- 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, **most of whom are still alive**, though some have fallen asleep.

The truth of the resurrection changes lives

- 7 **Then he appeared to James**, then to all the apostles.
 - A brother of Jesus, and an unbeliever (Matthew 13:55, John 7:2-5)
 - He became the head of the church in Jerusalem - a pillar
 - He wrote the book of James and called himself “a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ”
- 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, **he appeared also to me**. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
 - The impact of the resurrection **changed the course of human history** (Persia, Greece, Rome)

If There is no Resurrection

17 And if Christ has not been raised, **your faith is futile and you are still in your sins**. 18 Then those **also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished**. 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, **we are of all people most to be pitied**.

- Your faith is futile - empty, that is, (literally) profitless
- You are still in your sins
- All who have died in Christ have perished
- We are of all people most to be pitied

If There is No Resurrection (continued)

29 Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, **why are people baptized on their behalf?** 30 **Why are we in danger every hour?** 31

I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! 32

What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

- If there is no resurrection, baptism is meaningless (**behalf...in regards to')**
 - Rom 6:4-5 ESV We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.
- If there is no resurrection - why do we risk our lives?
- If there is no resurrection, then let our passions run unrestrained

What is the Resurrected Body Like?

35 But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"

Our resurrected body will be like Jesus' resurrected body

- Php 3:21 NIV 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.

Luk 24:36-43 NIV While they were still talking about this, **Jesus himself stood among them** and said to them, "Peace be with you." 37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! **Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.**" 40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and **he took it and ate it in their presence.**

- Jesus Jesus came and stood among them (John 20:19-20 - while the doors were locked)
- Not a ghost...flesh and bone...could be touched and seen
- WE CAN EAT!

Our body will be a changed/glorified version of our current body

- Job 19:25-27 I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; **I myself will see him with my own eyes**—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

The Resurrected Body

42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

Perishable [<i>decay and ruin</i>]	Imperishable [<i>unending existence</i>]
Dishonor [<i>indignity, disgrace, vile</i>]	Glory
Weakness [<i>feeble, frail, malady</i>]	Power [<i>force, power, miracle</i>]
Natural body	Spiritual body

Resurrection - The Final Act in the Complete Reversal of the Effects of Sin

22 For ***as in Adam all die***, so also ***in Christ shall all be made alive***. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father ***after destroying every rule and every authority and power***. ***25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet***. 26 ***The last enemy to be destroyed is death***.

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. 54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: **"Death is swallowed up in victory."** 55 **"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"** 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Moral of the Story

- He starts with this exhortation to HOLD FAST and ends with - therefore be steadfast unmoveable

58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

- Stand
- Don't be moved
- Superabounding in the work of the Lord
- Your labor is NOT IN VAIN