

**OUR RESURRECTION BODIES
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST – PART 10
1 CORINTHIANS 15:43-49**

THE PROMISE OF OUR BODILY RESURRECTION POINTS TO ETERNAL LIFE.

1. Death is the **first** necessary step to a **bodily** resurrection (1 Cor. 15:36-38).
2. The Resurrection plan of **God** is detailed and completely ready to unfold in **His** timing in **His** own divine manner (1 Cor. 15:38).
3. Our resurrected bodies will be **different** than our present bodies (1 Cor. 15:39-42).

KEY THOUGHT: The Christian's body rising from the grave will be a transformed body **free** from the earth's **corruptible** forces (Rom. 8:20-21).

III. FOUR WAYS OUR RESURRECTED BODIES WILL BE DIFFERENT THAN OUR EARTHLY BODIES (1 COR. 15:42-44)

- A. Our resurrected bodies will be more **durable** (1 Cor. 15:42b).
 1. Our earthly bodies deteriorate and eventually **dissipate** (Eccl. 3:20; Ps. 103: 14-16).
 2. Our resurrected bodies will **never die** or deteriorate (1 Peter 1:3-4; 1 Cor. 15:54).
- B. Our resurrected bodies will be more **valuable** (1 Cor. 15:43).
 1. Our earthly bodies are characterized by disintegration, humiliation, and **frailty**.
 2. Our resurrected bodies will allow Christians to **glorify** God as He intended when believers were made the **temple** of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19-20).
- C. Our resurrected bodies will have greater **abilities** (1 Cor. 15:43).
 1. Our new bodies will be raised in **power**.
 2. Our resurrected bodies will triumphantly **display** the viability, glory, and power of the new **spiritual** body (Rom. 1:3-4; Phil. 3:10; Rev. 20:6).

- D. Our resurrected bodies will be a **raised** spiritual body (1 Cor. 15:44).
1. Our spirits now **reside** in our earthly bodies which are designed for, and **limited** to, this physical world.
 2. Our spirits will reside in our new **spiritual** bodies after our **resurrection**.

KEY THOUGHT: Our resurrected bodies will be **perfected** for all eternity (Luke 20:34-36).

IV. JESUS IS THE PROTOTYPE OF A RESURRECTED BODY (1 COR. 15:45-49).

- A. Adam's was the prototype of our **natural** bodies (1 Cor. 15:45; Gen. 2:7).
- B. Jesus is the **first fruits** of the grave, the prototype for our spiritual bodies (1 Cor. 15:46-47; Phil. 3:21).
- C. Just as we will be transformed to Jesus' spiritual body, so we will be conformed into the **image** of **Jesus** (1 Cor. 15:48-49; Rom. 8:29-30).

KEY THOUGHT: Our blessed hope is that on that Day we are **certain** our natural bodies will be resurrected and **recreated** as spiritual bodies (1 John 3:2).

FOR FURTHER STUDY AND PERSONAL GROWTH

April 3, 2011

SUNDAY: ***The resurrected body of the Christian will be different than the earthly body (1 Cor. 15:39-42)!*** The promise of our bodily resurrection as Christians points to our eternal life with God in heaven. Death is the first necessary step to a bodily resurrection (1 Cor. 15:36-38). The seed must fall into the ground and die if new life is to be born from it (John 12:24). Jesus' resurrection was the first fruits from the grave of many brethren (1 Cor. 15:20, 23). The Resurrection plan of God is detailed and completely ready to unfold in His timing in His own divine manner (1 Cor. 15:38). As Christians, our resurrection bodies will be different than our present bodies (1 Cor. 15:39-42). The Christian's body rising from the grave will be a transformed body free from the corruptible forces of the earth (Rom. 8:20-21). Praise the Lord God for His mercy and grace that has reconciled you to Him through His Son Jesus Christ. ***May your reflection on the miracle of your salvation give birth to a great love for God and tremendous humility in you!***

MONDAY: ***The Christian's resurrected body will be more durable than the earthly body (1 Pet. 1:3-4)!*** Our earthly bodies will continue to deteriorate as we age. When we die, they will completely dissipate to dust (Eccl. 3:20; Ps. 103:14-16). The body rising from the grave will be "incorruptible" (Rom. 8:21). Though this primarily addresses the body's failure to decay, it also implies the quality of life in eternity. The Christian's soul will no longer be handicapped by the corruptible body within which it is now housed. The "transformed" body of the resurrection combated the Greek concept that the body was inherently evil. Our resurrection bodies will never die or deteriorate (1 Pet. 1:3-4; 1 Cor. 15:54). Commit yourself to living a transformed life as a Christian before you die. Seek the help of the Holy Spirit by surrendering to His leadership in your daily life (Gal. 2:20). ***May this adventure of rehearsing for the resurrection bring joy and excitement into your Christian life!***

TUESDAY: ***The Christian's resurrected body will be more valuable than the earthly body (1 Cor. 15:43)!*** Our earthly bodies are characterized by disintegration, humiliation, and frailty. The word for *dishonor* can be applied in several ways. First, it could mean the loss of the rights of citizenship. Certainly, a corpse has no rights of any kind. The Jews held that death was a form of uncleanness. However, there is no relevance between the rotting, lifeless corpse placed in the grave and the new resurrected body of the Christian. Our resurrected bodies will allow Christians to glorify God as He intended when believers were made the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19-20). The raised body is personified by power rather than frailty and weakness. Praise God that your resurrected body will not be limited or restricted. Sit quietly before the Lord to hear how you can glorify Him more in this present life. Purpose to be obedient to the answers the Lord gives to your prayer. ***May the promise of future perfection spur you on to serve more faithfully as you prepare to be with God for eternity!***

WEDNESDAY: ***The Christian's resurrected body will have greater abilities than the earthly body (Rom. 1:3-4; Phil. 3:10)!*** Our new bodies will be raised in power. Our present bodies are characterized by weakness, but the resurrected body will be one raised in power. Our resurrected bodies will triumphantly display the viability, glory, and power of the new spiritual body

(Rom. 1:3-4; Phil 3:10). Jesus is the first fruits of the grave, and His resurrection shows the power of God to overcome man's mortal enemy, death. His victory over death is the conclusive evidence that He is the Son of God. Contemplating our resurrection in Christ should help us gain a deeper knowledge and intimacy with Christ. Christ died for sinners, and we likewise die in a similar way. Paul invested his life to redeem sinners. In the same manner, our transformed life at conversion is to be given for that purpose. Ask the Lord for your next tangible step of your pilgrimage. Specifically, how are you to serve him by serving others? ***May the answer to this question bring you unspeakable joy through living in His will!***

THURSDAY: ***The Christian's spirit will reside in a new spiritual body after the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:44)!*** The body we now have is suited to the life we presently live on earth. The natural body is not inherently bad; it is simply limited. Our spirits now reside in our earthly bodies which are designed for, and limited to, this physical world. However, they are ill-adapted to the life to come. Our spirits will reside in our new spiritual bodies after the resurrection. It is a body similar to the one we currently possess but with the properties of the spirit that are appropriate to our life in heaven. The scriptures strongly imply that it would be inappropriate to wait until you receive your new spiritual body to begin to live in a transformed manner. Living a transformed life now is the picture that is silhouetted against the backdrop of eternity. Ask the Lord with an open heart about where you can effectively serve Him in His church by serving others. ***May the work of transformation that occurred at your conversion rise to the surface today in your life!***

FRIDAY: ***Jesus is the prototype of the resurrected body (Phil 3:21)!*** Adam was the prototype of our natural bodies (1 Cor. 15:45; Gen. 2:7). We have acknowledged that Jesus is the first fruits from the grave and the prototype for the spiritual bodies we are to receive at the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:46-47; Phil. 3:21). We will be transformed at the resurrection from our earthly bodies into spiritual bodies. The real excitement is the fact we will be conformed into the image of Jesus (Rom. 8:29-30). The goal of man's redemption is that His "own" would be conformed into the very image of Jesus. This is the "prize of the upward call" (Phil 3:14). Jesus came to earth to reconcile sinners to the Father. That ministry of reconciliation has been handed down to the Christians who are now here on earth (2 Cor. 5:18). Ask the Lord what your role is in the ministry of reconciliation. ***May the encouragement you receive about your future life with God build a desire to tell others about this wonderful life!***

SATURDAY: ***The Christian will be conformed into the image of Jesus in the resurrection (Rom. 8:29-30)!*** God has promised us not only eternal life with Him, but the opportunity to be fellow heirs with Jesus (Rom. 8:17). Paul wrote in the past tense that those who are saved were called, justified, and glorified (Rom. 8:30). God in His sovereignty brings all He intended to be saved into His household. The references Paul makes are in the past tense because, with God, it is a completed issue. Your salvation and eternal security are a completed transaction. Thank the Lord for His benevolent love and transforming presence. Praise Him for His mercy, love, and grace! ***May your relationship with the Lord intensify and your intimacy with the Lord increase beyond any level you ever imagined!***