

1 Corinthians 15:1-35-58

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?” ³⁶ How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. ³⁹ Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. ⁴⁰ There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. ⁴¹ The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

⁴² So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised 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. ⁴⁵ So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man.

⁵⁰ I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.



The Resurrection: Its Nature

1 Corinthians 15:35-58

3/11/2018

RESURRECTION REALITIES

What you **HOPE** in, and what your **PERSPECTIVE** on your future is, fundamentally shapes how you **THINK** and **BEHAVE** today.

Our current bodies are **PERISHABLE** - but to live in God's presence for eternity, we need bodies that are **IMPERISHABLE**.

Christians can count on the ultimate triumph of God's **PEOPLE**, and all of God's **PURPOSES**.

THE NATURE OF THE RESURRECTION

There is a simultaneous **CONTINUITY** and **DISCONTINUITY** between believers' earthly bodies and their resurrected bodies.

1. A new body is a **NECESSITY** for experiencing the world to come.
2. That new form of existence does not come until Christ's **RETURN**.
3. This new heavenly body will be far more **GLORIOUS** than anything we currently experience or imagine.

LIVE IN LIGHT OF IT

- The reality of the resurrection means that Christians ought to **FEAR LESS**.
- We hold on to gospel **BELIEF**.
- We throw ourselves into Christ-like **BEHAVIOR**.
- BUT, the commands to bolster your doctrine, and the power to live the right way come **AFTER** the victory of Jesus. This is **GRACE**. And this is the unique hope of the Christian faith.

You can listen to today's message at MissionTrailsChurch.com or on the **MTC App**.



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GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to: MissionTrailsChurch.com or the *MTC App*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Women's Retreat** – March 23-24
- **Good Friday Service** – March 30, 6:30pm
- **Thank You Party for David & Jessica Worcester** – March 30, 7:30pm
- **Easter Sunday** – 7:30am (nursery only for kids), 9:00 and 10:30am

DIGGING DEEPER

1. If you need to, re-read **1 Corinthians 15:35-58**
Review some of the details together. **What does this passage say will happen to the bodies of Christians after their death, and when?**
2. Based on the metaphors used here of *seed to plant*, and *the variety of different created entities*, **how can you put into your own words the continuity and discontinuity of our bodies NOW and in the RESURRECTION... how will we be the same, and how will we be different?**

GETTING PERSONAL

3. One of the statements from the weekend sermon was that *"The reality of the resurrection means that Christians ought to **fear less.**"*
DO you think this is true, and HOW do you think this is true?
4. **In what ways CAN / SHOULD you live differently, if you really believed these truths?:**
"Death has been swallowed up in victory."

⁵⁵ "Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

5. Read **verse 58** again.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

What does it mean to "stand firm. Let nothing move you"?

What does it look like to "give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord..."?

BRINGING IT HOME

6. Remember, the commands to bolster your doctrine, and the power to live the right way come AFTER the victory of Jesus. You don't earn God's love through your vigorous doctrinal convictions, or faithful living. We earn God's favor through what Christ has done for us.
So how does your motivation to right BELIEF and right BEHAVIOR change if you know you have nothing more to prove or earn before God?

PRAY TOGETHER