



11/4/25

I personally think it's so much easier to believe what we see in the physical world rather than what we're told to trust in the spiritual world. I wonder if that's the way God designed it so that we would have to learn to live by faith. I remember the story of Elisha and his servant. His servant thought they were doomed because the enemy was surrounding them, but Elisha asked the Lord to open his servant's eyes to see what he saw in the spiritual. And God opened his eyes so that he could see the heavenly army that was surrounding the human army. Then the servant wasn't afraid. The question is, are you and I willing to trust that God is surrounding us with His favor and power... even when we can't see it? The physical doesn't hold a candle to the spiritual. I pray that you and I will be able to grasp that... even when all we see is that physical army coming against us. God is still bigger!

Blessings,
Jonna

1 Corinthians 15:42-49

Okay... I'm coming in on the middle of a conversation. What was Paul talking about before he said, "So it is with the resurrection of the dead"? He was explaining how our resurrected bodies are like a seed that's planted in the ground. What goes in the ground looks nothing like what grows from the seed. In the same way, our bodies go in the ground as an earthly body but are raised as a heavenly body. Paul said in Philippians 3:20-21, "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself."

This passage is going to show me how I am like the seed of the first Adam, who was from the dust... but through Jesus, I will become like Him, the second Adam, who is from heaven. This is massive hope! My life is no longer defined by this broken world. My purpose is no longer set on a temporary and futile mission. I am now not only an image bearer of God, but I get to become like Him... holy, righteous, pure... forever. "Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will

be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He (Jesus) appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure" (1 John 3:2-3). I will no longer bear the marks of my sin and guilt. I will bear the full image of Jesus.

Vs. 42-44a ~ The hope that I live for is not in the here and now, making a name for myself. That would be wasted effort. Right now, I am perishable... I see this as my body continues to age... as gray hairs can no longer be hidden... as pain can creep in just from sleeping in the wrong position, whatever that is. Because of Jesus and His sacrifice for me, I will be raised IMPERISHABLE, just as the inheritance I will receive in heaven is imperishable.

I was sown... planted... in dishonor, disgrace, and shame. As Psalm 51:5 says, "Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me." All human beings were conceived in sin... because all who conceived are sinners. It doesn't matter how I was conceived... I had the DNA of sin running through my veins because I'm a descendant of Adam. BUT... I will be raised in glory! The Holy Spirit is transforming me "one degree of GLORY to the next" (2 Corinthians 3:18). He is not focused on removing more and more and shame. My shame was removed at the cross. He's focused on growing me from glory to glory.

I was sown in weakness. No matter how strong any human is, we are all completely weak and helpless compared to the power of God. BUT I will be raised in power... the power that raises the dead... the power that raised Jesus from the dead.

I was sown a natural body... nothing special about me or in me. BUT because I have confessed Jesus as my Lord and because the Holy Spirit has sealed me as a guarantee of my inheritance with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit... I will be raised a spiritual body. Let me never again be deluded into thinking that the physical is more valuable than the spiritual. This physical body is temporary. The spiritual is eternal.

Vs. 44b-49 ~ Yes, there is a natural body... and it there to point me to the spiritual. The Greek word for natural is an adjective that comes from the root word "psuche." It's where we get our word "psychology." It means "soulish", "what relates to the physical apart from God's inworking of faith." Psychology seeks to understand the way the human mind works... but it does so without the inclusion of the divine God. It raises man as a higher reality than God. The spiritual, the "pneuma" is about the things of God. God is greater and higher than any man... and He has a purpose to raise all believers to share in His glory. O Lord, please help me to keep my eyes fixed on the eternal and not the temporary. What does it matter if I do something that impacts this temporary world, but has no eternal value? Let me live for YOU! Help me to live for You.

I am born from the dust like Adam. I am born again through the Spirit because of Jesus.

The first Adam became a living being... a soul being... a psuche being.

The last Adam (Jesus) became a life giving spirit. The Greek word used for life here is not "phsuche" but "zoe", and it means divine, eternal life. Jesus came to give me divine, eternal life in the SPIRIT!

As Tim taught a few weeks ago... My physical body will be transformed when I'm resurrected from the dead. My soul is currently being transformed to be like Jesus now. My spirit is now "perfected for all time as He is sanctifying me" (Hebrews 10:14). Do I see how huge this is? How this can change my perspective and my hope? O Lord, please help me to grasp the magnitude of the eternal!!!

The first Adam was of the dust... ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The second Adam, Jesus, is from heaven... "He has established His throne in the heavens and His Kingdom rules over ALL" (Psalm 103:19).

As Adam died and was buried, so are all who are descendants of his seed. BUT... for all who receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior, we are now citizens of heaven! Jesus said in His last prayer on earth before He went to the cross, "They (believers) are not of the world, just as I am not of the world" (John 17:16).

So... I have borne the image of the man of dust... I have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. I have chosen SELF over God. I have loved the things of the world that are completely against the holiness of God. BUT praise the Lord... "I am a new creation IN CHRIST! The old has passed away. The new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). I have been raised with Christ and now I will fully bear the image of the man of heaven, Jesus Christ.

O Lord, the power is not in this temporary world. My hope is not in this natural world. Seeking my glory from this world is wasted effort. Please help me to have an eternal, divine hope in my promised future with You. Help me to see all things through Your eyes... Let me not worry about leaving a legacy of my own. I pray that what will be remembered of me, if there is any remembrance of me when You take me home is, "She loved Jesus with all her heart and without apology." Let me genuinely live the words of Paul from Philippians 1:20-21, that "it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Amen.