

November 11, 2018 *New Resurrection Bodies!*

**\*\* When Jeremy or I say that the Resurrection is the pinnacle**

This is our last installment of teaching about the resurrection – and to some degree, Paul has saved the best for last! Earlier in this chapter, Paul corrected the Corinthian Christians who were denying the reality of Christ's resurrection and ours. The foundation Paul laid for belief in the resurrection was 500+ witnesses. Paul insists that the resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith and the final stage of our salvation. This morning, we'll see how Paul addresses the future reality of the bodily resurrection event for all believers. But first, 2 questions:

*What event will trigger bodily resurrection for believers?*

*What happens after the bodily resurrection event?*

***And we will forever be with the Lord Jesus because our bodies will have been changed from temporal/earthly/fleshly to eternal, heavenly & spiritual so that we can see Him as He truly is and know Him as fully as we ourselves have been known by Him!***

The resurrection of our bodies will enable us to operate on many more dimensions simultaneously, will challenge our current understanding of space & time, and will explode our limited mental/emotional abilities in the present state! **Excited?**

### **READ: 1Corinthians 15:35-58 (NLT)**

**35-36)** *What kind of bodies will we have? Why foolish question?*

-Gk word = **aphron**, "O unreasonable!" rather than fool!

*The doctrine of the resurrection has been logically established. The question suggests a difficulty as to how it is possible! The fact of a buried seed rising into flower does not/cannot prove that man will rise; but it does show that the objection suggested in the question, **"How are the dead raised up?"** is not a practical difficulty for God!*

**37-41)** 3 illustrations of preserving identity under changed form

-Seed into plant; different kinds of flesh; differing glory

-Will we be recognizable in changed form? & Glorious!

**42-44)** Our resurrection preserves our identity in changed form

-our earthly bodies planted (seed); but heavenly raised

-broken bodies buried; glorious bodies raised

-weak/frail bodies die; new bodies raised in strength

-natural bodies buried; spiritual bodies raised!

**45-49)** Just as we are now like the earthly man, Adam, we will be like the heavenly man, Jesus, when we are raised!

*\*What was Jesus' Resurrection body like as the perfect man?*

**-John 20:6,7, 17, 19-21, 26-29; 21:5-14; Act 1:9**

**50-53)** This is *1Thes 4* in much less detail/description

**-1Thes 4:14-17** = "He will bring w/ Him" dead believers

-Jesus brings spirit/soul beings; their new bodies arise

-We living will rise (new bodies) & join Him/them air

**54-58)** Death swallowed up in Christ's victory over all enemies!

**56)** Sin is the sting that results in death; law gives sin its power b/c God's Law is holy/perfect & sin violates Law!

-That's why sinners are condemned: they're *of* sin

-Why Believers not condemned? We're *of* Spirit!

*When God's wrath is poured out against all sin/wickedness/unrighteousness & people who are "of sin"- unregenerate sinners will be caught in the crossfire as God punishes Sin - even sin in sinful man! Hell was never conceived for mankind – only God's enemies; but unless a person is born again of God's Spirit, he/she will be destroyed in hell because of his/her Sin & sins!*

### **INVITATION:**

- 1) Are you living today with a view toward the New Creation?
- 2) Are you sharing with others the Hope you know in Jesus?
- 3) Will the excitement of the Resurrection infect you today?

### **1Thes. 4:14-18 (GWT)**

**14***We believe that Jesus died and came back to life. We also believe that, through Jesus, God will bring back those who have died. They will come back with Jesus. 15***We are telling you what the Lord taught. We who are still alive when the Lord comes will not go [into his kingdom] ahead of those who have already died. 16***The Lord will come from heaven with a command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet [call] of God. First, the dead who believed in Christ will come back to life. 17***Then, together with them, we who are still alive will be taken in the clouds to meet the**

*Lord in the air. In this way we will always be with the Lord. 18 So then, comfort each other with these words!*

**MEDITATION: Revelation 21:1-4**

**1) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. 2) And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.**

**3) I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. 4) He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”**

This, of course, is a description of the recreated, eternal heaven & earth! Even the world itself will undergo a “resurrection from death!” Sin – *the cause of death* – has corrupted & defiled God’s original creation; therefore, this current “ruined version” will be recreated, or “**resurrected**,” unto Eternal Life!

Today we’ll dream about the unlimited possibilities of our resurrection bodies to be provided us at Christ’s Return – the event that triggers the last things: the Judgment of God, the Recreation of Heaven and Earth, and the consummation of His Kingdom when God Himself will live with us eternal lives that stagger our imaginations!

Sermon in a Sentence:

**NEW RESURRECTION BODIES!**

**John 20:6,7 - 6) Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, 7) while the cloth that had covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings.**

-It would have been impossible once His body was wrapped in linen cloths to “unwrap” Himself and to remove the cloth on His head! He simply “passed thru” the body wrappings, then folded the face cloth and laid it separately as a testimony! For Peter and John, this was the evidence of His resurrection!

(When Lazarus walked out of the tomb, Jesus ordered those watching to “release him from his burial wrappings!” because he could not do it himself!)

**John 20:17 - 17) “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”**

-Jesus does not say to Mary, “Don’t touch Me!” – but rather, “Don’t hold Me back!” Jesus had yet to ascend to the Father in His resurrection body. Notice: He is recognizable – especially His voice and when Mary looks at Him!

**John 19-21 - 19) That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! “Peace be with you,” he said. 20) As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! 21) Again he said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.”**

-Doors were locked: suddenly, Jesus was with them!  
-He showed them his hands & side: the wounds of crucif.  
-They were filled with joy (not fear, horror, or surprise)  
-**John 20:26-29** – repeat for Thomas & us (faith no sight)

**John 21:5-14 - 4) At dawn Jesus was standing on the beach, but the disciples couldn’t see who he was. 5) He called out, “Fellows, have you caught any fish?” “No,” they replied. 6) Then he said, “Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you’ll get some!” So they did, and they couldn’t haul in the net because there were so many fish in it.**

**Acts 1:9-11 - 9) After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. 10) As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. 11) “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”**

-The resurrection body seems to be completely unaffected by gravity – & perhaps, every earthly/natural law that currently governs life on earth!

-We're used to operating in 3 dimensions; our humanity requires it! But I believe the New creation of heaven/earth will be suited to a new version of humanity as the children of God.

**\*\***When Jeremy or I say that the Resurrection is the pinnacle of our salvation, here's what we mean: the grace we receive in Christ as God's adopted children entitles us all to the greatest inheritance mankind will ever know...the new creation itself!

Of course, God's forgiveness from all our sin thru the death of Christ as our substitute and sacrifice is astonishing! But it pales in comparison to His resurrection by which we are included in Jesus' eternal victory in life & made joint heirs with Him in His Kingdom!

Dr. Steve McVey writes, *"Our adoption in Jesus was the eternal purpose of our Triune God all along. Before Adam sinned, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world had assured your safe delivery into His arms. **You were found before you were lost!** Your adoption in Jesus Christ is the result of a love set on you long before the first ray of light exploded out of the mouth of Christ and raced across the universe"*

To be clear:

***"For Christ must reign until He humbles all His enemies beneath His feet. (1Cor 15:25) So, let's determine when Christ will reign!***

- 1) *Christ's reign is "the way" He humbles all His enemies*
- 2) *His enemies must be humbled before they are destroyed*
- 3) *Christ will destroy His enemies after He returns*
- 4) *Therefore, Christ must reign before He returns!*

*When is that? NOW!*