

## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT ALPHIE?

I Corinthians 15:35-44

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### INTRODUCTION

- A. A popular song from a movie in the Sixties asked an age old question? "What's it all about Alphie? Is it just for the moment we live?"
- B. Three thousand years ago, Job asked the same questions.  
**Job 14:14** If a man dies, will he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait for my renewal to come.
- C. The Apostle's Creed says yes, we will live again after we die ("I believe in the resurrection of the body").
- D. The Bible says it too.  
**John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
  - 1. The Bible teaches what has been called "whole salvation". That is, the resurrection of the body as well as the soul.
  - 2. The Creed does too "resurrection of the body".

### I. HOW DO WE KNOW THE RESURRECTION IS REAL?

- A. Because Jesus' resurrection was real.  
**1 Corinthians 15:20** But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- B. Because the same God who raised Jesus from the dead promises he will do the same for us.  
**2 Corinthians 4:14** because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence.

### II. WHAT WILL OUR RESURRECTION BODIES BE LIKE?

- A. I hope it won't be like the one we have. Article called "**51 Signs You're Getting Older....**Some of these signs are...."
  - 1. Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
  - 2. You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
  - 3. Your knees buckle but your belt won't.
  - 4. You're asleep but others worry you may be dead.
- B. What will our resurrection bodies be like? Just like Jesus'-15:20 "first fruits". Paul tells us what that will be like- & 15:35.  
**1 Corinthians 15:35** But someone may ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?"
  - 1. In some ways just like our present bodies. For example...
    - a. Jesus could be touched.  
**Luke 24:39** 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."
    - b. Jesus could eat.  
**Luke 24:41-43** <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.
  - 2. In many ways our resurrection bodies will be different than our present one.
    - a. Jesus could enter locked doors.
    - b. Jesus ascended into heaven.

3. Paul lists four more ways our resurrection bodies will be different.
  - a. It will be indestructible-15:42 (Not subject to decline or decay).  
<sup>42</sup> **So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable;**
  - b. It will be glorious-15:43a. (Perfect ).  
<sup>43</sup> **it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory;.....**
  - c. It will be powerful-15:43b. (Can do anything, like Jesus).  
**.....it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;**
  - d. It will be spiritual-15:44. ( Suited for Heaven).  
<sup>44</sup> **it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.**

## CONCLUSION

- A. C. S. Lewis concluded his "**Chronicles of Narnia**" with Aslan, the lion, who represents Jesus Christ saying to the children who died in the end of their quest...  
**"You are—as you used to call it in the Shadowlands—dead. The term (school term) is over: the holidays are begun. The dream is ended; this is the morning (beginning)".**
- B. Lewis was saying he believed in the resurrection.
  1. The Bible says it.
  2. The Apostle's Creed says it.
  3. I believe it too, how about you?