

OUR RESURRECTED BODY

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

I. INTRODUCTION-

- a. One church Senior Adult group...calls themselves the “5 B’s.”
- b. The “5 B’s” are baldness... bifocals... bridges... bulges... and bunions.
- c. No matter how hard we try to keep our bodies healthy... and we should try... we are charged by God to be good stewards of our bodies.
- d. Time takes its toll... and eventually our bodies will wear out and stop working.

II. THE RESURRECTION OF THE SAVED AND LOST-

- a. The Bible teaches that physical death... is not the end of our physical body.
- b. Some people have the idea that our physical body is unimportant to God... that when we die... our physical body is crumpled up, thrown away and forgotten... like throwing away a soda can after the soda has been downed... but that is not the case.
- c. The Bible says that when the Lord saved us... He saved us to the “uttermost”... not only did He save our soul... He saved our body as well.
- d. The moment we give our life to Christ... our soul is saved... but our body will not know its full redemption... until is raised from the dead.
- e. *John 5:28-29 (NKJV) “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”*

- f. The resurrection of condemnation...refers to the resurrection of the lost.
- g. The Bible teaches that the physical bodies of those who die without faith in Christ... will be raised and rejoined with their soul which went to hell after their death... and then after the Great White Throne Judgment every unbeliever ... body and soul... and hell itself...will be cast into the lake of fire for all eternity.
- h. *Revelation 20:11-15 (NKJV) “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”*
- i. The resurrection of life... refers to the resurrection of the saved.
- j. When the physical bodies of those who believe in Christ are raised from the dead... their resurrected bodies will be glorified and made fit for Heaven.
- k. In the Rapture... the resurrected bodies of believers will be rejoined with their soul which went to be with the Lord after their death ... and the believer ... both body and soul... will be with the Lord in Heaven for all eternity.
- l. In 1 Corinthians 15... the Apostle Paul gives a description of what the believer’s resurrected body will be like.

- m. While the resurrected body of the believer will be the same body they were born with... the same body we lived in in this world... our bodies will be much different after the resurrection.
- n. While our bodies now are subject to sickness, injury and death... after the resurrection... our body will not be subject to any of those things.
- o. After the resurrection... our body will be perfect... and perfectly suited for eternity.
- p. Those who believe in Christ... are headed for the ultimate physical makeover... our resurrected body will be amazing... and Paul talks about that in these verses.

III. OUR RESURRECTED BODY WILL BE INDESTRUCTABLE-

- a. *1 Corinthians 15:42 (NKJV) "So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption."*
- b. Our present bodies wear out and grow old... but our resurrection bodies will never wear out or grow old.
- c. Our resurrected body will have no capacity...for deterioration or decay.
- d. Our resurrected body will be designed for eternity... it will not be subject to accident, disease, aging, or death... it will be pain-free and disease-free... it will never wear out and never die... it will outlive the stars.
- e. The Bible teaches that the resurrected body of Jesus... is the pattern for our own resurrection bodies.
- f. *Philippians 3:20-21 (NKJV) "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself."*

- g. *1 John 3:2 (NKJV) “Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”*
- h. *1 Corinthians 15:49 (NKJV) “And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.”*
- i. Romans 6:8-9 gives this description of the resurrected Jesus... *“Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more.”*
- j. From the moment Jesus arose from grave ... there is one thing He cannot do... He cannot die again... the resurrected body of Jesus is imperishable and indestructible.
- k. As the resurrected body of Jesus is imperishable and indestructible ... so ours will be... as the resurrected body of Jesus cannot die... the same will be true of our resurrected body.

(Indestructible)

IV. OUR RESURRECTED BODY WILL BE IDENTIFIABLE-

- a. When we talk about Heaven... many people want to know... will people know me in Heaven in my resurrected body?... Will people recognize me in Heaven?... Will I know others in Heaven?”
- b. After His resurrection...Jesus knew His disciples...and they knew Him.
- c. The disciples recognized the resurrected Jesus... as the very same One they had known before His death.
- d. The disciples were so convinced... of the identity of the risen Christ ... that they all went to their death... proclaiming the reality His resurrection and the message of everlasting life.
- e. When you and I get to Heaven... we are going to know all of the people we met down here who are in Heaven...and they will know us.

- f. It is unthinkable to think that in Heaven... we will know less than we do here.
- g. The Bible says... in *I Corinthians 13:12* “*For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.*”
- h. We will have a greater sense of recognition in Heaven... than we have ever had here on this earth.
- i. When Moses and Elijah appeared out of Heaven to stand with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration... the disciples instinctively recognized them as real people... and they knew them.
- j. Jesus said in *Luke 10:20*... “*Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.*”
- k. The Bible says that when a person gives their life to Christ... their name ... their earthly name which represents their earthly identity ... is written in Heaven... who we are on earth... is who we will be in Heaven... only in Heaven we will be perfect!
- l. If the resurrected body of Christ... is the pattern for our resurrected body...then some of the things that Jesus said and did in His glorified body during the forty days between His resurrection and ascension... will give us a glimpse of what our resurrected, glorified body will be like.
- m. The most important thing about the Lord’s resurrected body... and He emphasized this repeatedly...is that His resurrected body was real, literal, physical, and tangible.
- n. The resurrected body of our Lord... was the very same body that had been crucified.
- o. On one occasion when Jesus appeared to His disciples... He told them in *Luke 24:39 (NKJV)* “*Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I*

Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.”

- p. This tells us that in Heaven...we are not going to be some kind of ghost-like phantom that floats around forever.
- q. We are going to have the same literal, physical body that we have now ...only after the resurrection our bodies will be cleansed, healed and glorified ... equipped for eternity.
- r. During two of His post-resurrection appearances... Jesus ate with His disciples... which shows us that our glorified bodies will be capable of eating.
- s. We will not *need* to eat in Heaven... we will eat and drink for the joy of it... imagine sharing a Heavenly meal with one of the great saints of God in Heaven!
- t. We also know that after His resurrection... the body of Christ was touchable...it could be touched and held.
- u. In John 20:27... Jesus told Thomas... *“Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing!”*
- v. This tells us that the resurrected body of Jesus was tangible, touchable ... it was capable of being held and hugged... Oh, the hugs we will get in Heaven!

V. OUR RESURECTED BODY WILL BE INCREDIBLE-

- a. Our resurrection body... will be indestructible... it will be identifiable ... it will also be incredible.
- b. *1 Corinthians 15:43 (NKJV) “It (our earthly body) is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory.”*
- c. When we die we will be buried in weakness... a dead body has no strength or power...it cannot lift a finger.

- d. But when we come out of the grave... we will have so much energy we will think we have been supercharged by a lightning bolt.
- e. Our resurrection bodies will be incredible... full of energy... always full of enthusiastic power... and apparently capable of extraordinary abilities.
- f. When you read about the Lord Jesus after His resurrection... He could enter sealed rooms without going through the door.
- g. *John 20:19 (NKJV) "Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."*
- h. If the glorified body of Christ... could pass through walls... and travel by impulses of thought... perhaps the same will be true for us.
- i. At His ascension... the Bible says Jesus rose into the sky... and disappeared into the clouds.
- j. Imagine being able to travel like that through the new heaven ... and the new earth... and the city of New Jerusalem... and all of God's creation...with wide-eyed wonder and joy.
- k. In this world...none of us will even come close to being all that God has created us to be...mentally or physically.
- l. Scientist say that even the most brilliant of persons...uses very little of the capacity of their brain.
- m. But in the resurrection...our minds and bodies will be set free from the effects and contamination of sin...physically and mentally we will be operating at full capacity and ability.
- n. After the resurrection our physically abilities will be astounding...as will our ability to learn, comprehend, explore and discover...the greatness of God...and the glory of His creation.

- o. After the resurrection...we will not know everything there is to know ...but our brain's capabilities will be firing at full capacity and for all eternity you will be able to explore the greatness of God...His creation ...and His glory.

VI. OUR RESURRECTED BODY WILL BE INDEFECTIBLE-

- a. Our resurrection bodies will be indestructible, identifiable, incredible ...and also indefectible... without defect... perfect.
- b. *1 Corinthians 15:44 (NKJV) "It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body."*
- c. In this life... as saved and secure as we are... we are constantly fighting the flesh ... and the residue of the lost life that was left in us after we were saved.
- d. As saved as we are... there is something within us that fights everything God wants to do in our life.
- e. Paul talked about this struggle all believers have... *Romans 7:22-25 "I love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord."*
- f. Our salvation has three tenses... we have been saved from the penalty of sin (justification)... we are being saved from the power of sin (sanctification) ... but we will not be saved from the presence of sin until we go to Heaven (glorification).
- g. In the resurrection...we receive the final installment of our salvation ...our resurrected and glorified body.
- h. Our resurrected body... will finally be free from the contamination, ... the curse... the possibility... and the presence of sin.

- i. In the resurrection...when our souls have been made perfect... when our minds have been cleansed and glorified...when our bodies have been raised imperishable, glorious, powerful, and spiritual.
- j. We will finally have the power to perfectly serve God...to love Him ...and to praise Him...as He created us to do.
- k. The Bible says after our resurrection...for all eternity we will...
Matthew 13:43 (NKJV) "shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father."
- l. We will radiate like the sun...reflecting the magnificent glory of God ...as we love Him...worship Him...and serve Him...and enjoy the blessings of that place he has prepared for us...for all eternity.

VII. CONCLUSION-

- a. Our resurrection bodies will be indestructible, identifiable, incredible ...and also indefectible.
- b. In this life... we are to try to keep ourselves healthy... so we will have longer to serve the Lord.
- c. In this life we are to honor God with our bodies... seeking to live holy lives... not involving our body... which is the Temple of the Holy Spirit... in that which is sinful and unholy.
- d. When we die our soul will go to Heaven... our body will be left behind ... but in the resurrection... there will be a great reunion...
hallelujah!