The Resurrection Body

1 Cor. 15:35-58

1 Corinthians 15:35-38

• 35 But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"

36 Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies.

• 37 And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain.

38 But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

1 Corinthians 15:39-41

• 39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.

• 40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

• 41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

• 42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

• 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. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

1 Corinthians 15:50-53

- 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.
- 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—
- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
- 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

- 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."
- 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"
- 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.
- 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.







Death





Gaza

Ukraine



COVID-19



How do
Christians
remain joyful in
the face of
death?



How do we handle death in our lives?





Denial of Death

- Don't talk to me about death
- I'll think about it when it comes
- I'll focus on living, not dying
- Whatever happens when I die happens









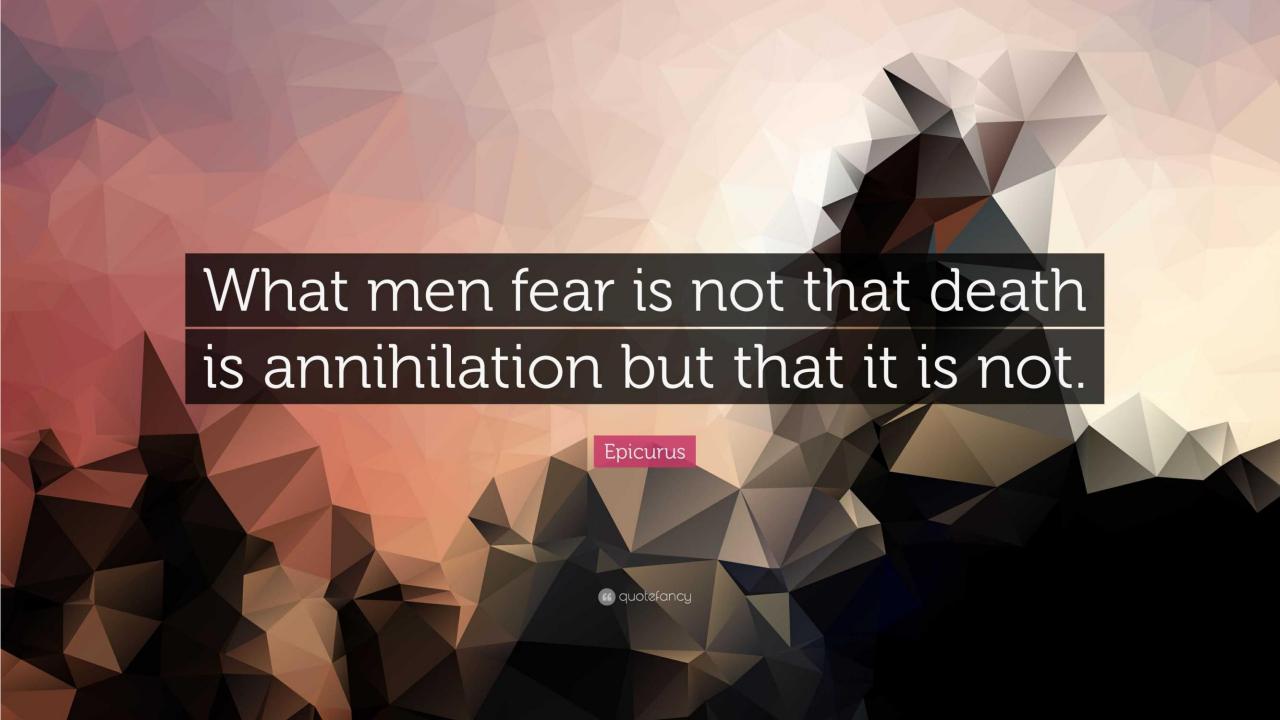
Driving in a car without windows

Driving in a car without windows

Living <u>without</u> knowing what comes after death



Now I am about to take my last voyage, a great leap in the dark.



How do we handle death in our lives?

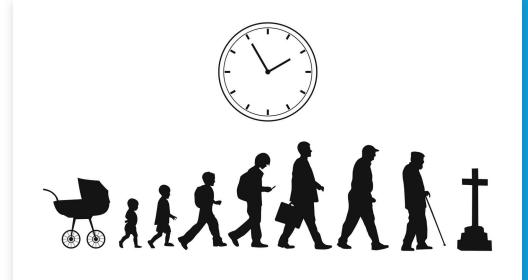




How do we handle death in our lives?

- 1. Denial of Death
- 2. Death is "Natural"





Death is "natural"

- "Death is just a natural part of life."
- "Death is nothing to be feared."
- "Death is just peaceful cessation."
- "Death is just a dreamless sleep."
- "Death is just the drop of water going back into the shining sea."
- "There is nothing to be afraid."
- "He/She looks like he/she is sleeping."



Did the Lord see death as natural?



John 11 – Resurrection of Lazarus

- 38 Then Jesus, again **groaning** in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.
- 39a Jesus said, "Take away the stone."...
- 43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!"
- 44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth.
 Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."



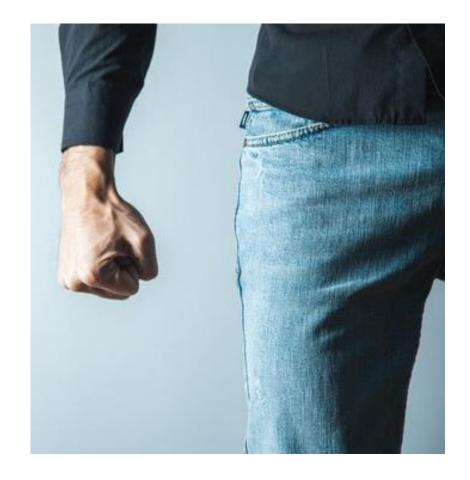
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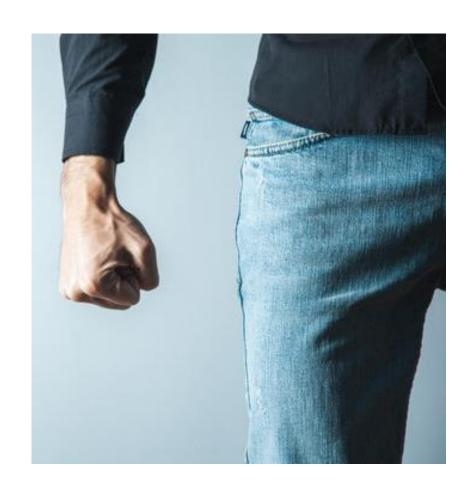
Groaning - Quaking with Anger and Rage

- The Lord Jesus was quaking with rage
 - He knew he will raise Lazarus from the dead
 - o But He was still weeping, angry, grieving, and mad
- How could the Lord of the world be angry at something in his world?



Groaning - Quaking with Anger and Rage

- The Lord Jesus was quaking with rage
 - He knew he will raise Lazarus from the dead
 - o But He was still weeping, angry, grieving, and mad
- How could the Lord of the world be angry at something in his world?
 - The answer: Jesus would only have been angry at death if death is an intruder
 - Death is <u>not</u> the original design

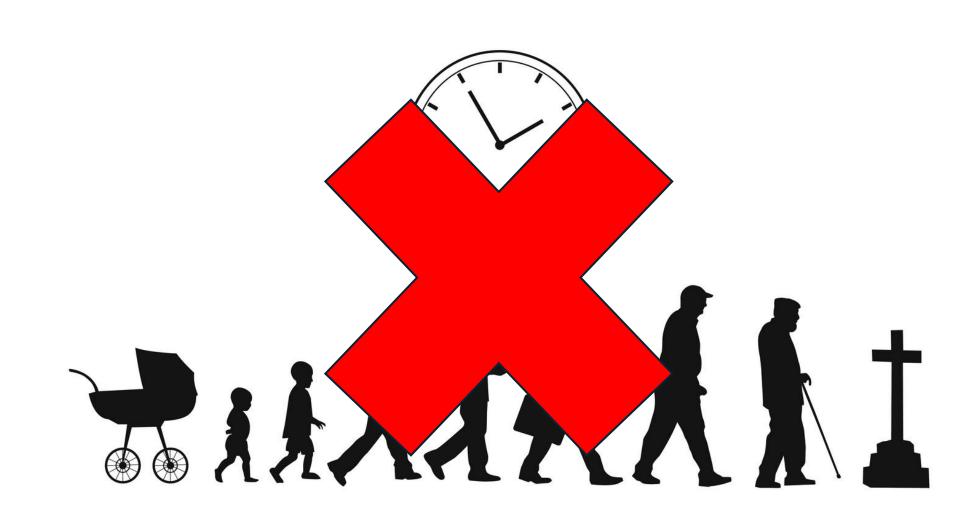


Death is not the original design

- We were not meant to die
- We were meant to last



Death is NOT natural



How do
Christians
remain joyful in
the face of
death?



A Life of Hope

• The Christian life

- Hope
 - A joyful conviction on the basis of compelling evidence

• 1 Cor. 15:19



Basis of our Hope – the Defeat of Death

 1 Cor. 15:54 - "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."

• 1 Cor. 15:26 - "The last **enemy** that shall be destroyed is **death**."



Death is our Enemy

 People are taught to either deny or befriend death

- If you deny it, if you befriend it, you'll never get the kind of fearlessness that Paul's talking about
- Christianity says death is not something to be denied and it's not something to be befriended
- Death is an enemy



Paul taunts Death

- Paul shows it no respect at all
- If you're a Christian with the hope that Christ can give you, you will show death no respect
- There's a buoyancy and unsinkableness that Christians have
- It's not certainly not just something to be denied or a friend
- But it is a defeated enemy

Death is an **enemy**A defeated enemy

- Not a friend
- Do we deny or befriend death?



But how? Has death truly been defeated?

- Death is STILL our enemy
- Even for Christians
 - It breaks relationships
 - It destroys friendships
 - It disrupts families
 - o It causes great grief in the loss of those dear to us





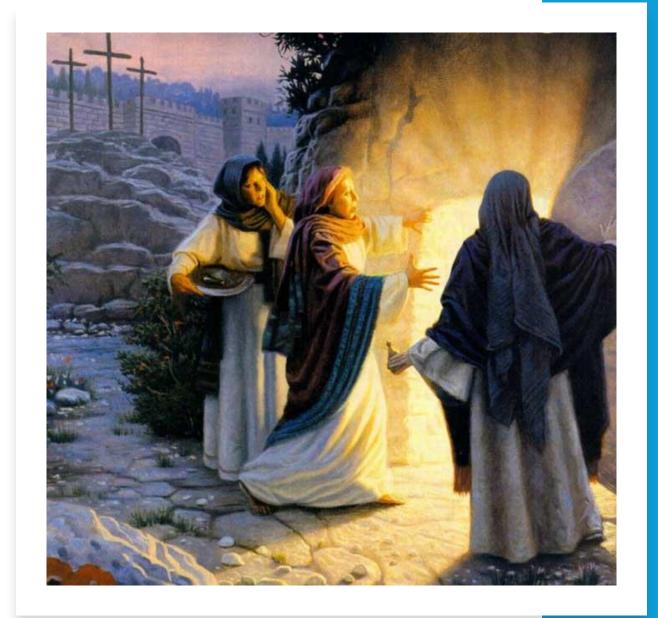
Only spiritual?

- But the Bible says that God invented the spiritual and the physical
- They have both been crushed under the weight of sin
- They are **both** going to be redeemed
- God does not consider the spiritual more important than the physical



Redemption of both body **and** soul

- We were invented in body and soul by God
- And we are going to be redeemed in **body and soul** by God!



Did God give a half-baked solution?

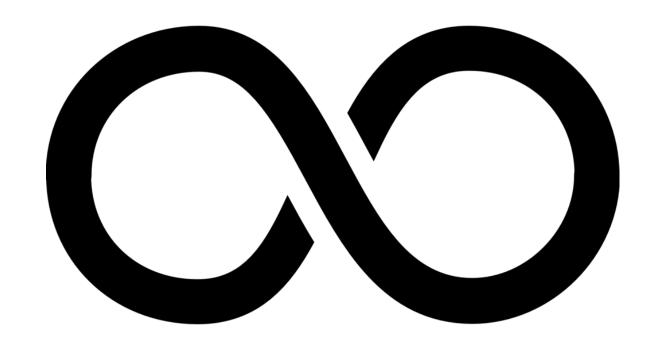
- Our misery today
- Not just miserable because of our soul
- Yes, our soul is full of fear, anger, and discouragement
- But our body is also full of brokenness and misery
- Our body is dying
- Our body was not meant to be diseased
- It was not meant to be frail



- Everybody, every human being, was not meant to be like that
- Imagine that Jesus Christ, that God would have sent his Son into the world to address the misery and the pain of your life and my life and only address half of it.

A Complete Redemption

- He does not just address half of it
- He addresses the totality of it
- When the perishable should put on the imperishable and when the mortal will put on immortality



How does it happen?

Questions about Resurrection

1 Cor. 15:35 - "But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?"



Q1 – How are the dead raised?



Q2 – With what body do they come?



An Illustration of Resurrection (v.36-38)

- Resurrection is not impossible, because it occurs on a small scale continuously in the plant world
- Resurrection is similar to planting a seed in 3 ways
 - **1. Dissolution**: The original form is dissolved
 - **2. Transformation**: The original and final forms are different
 - 3. Continuity: Yet the two forms have a continuity



1 Corinthians 15:35-38

• 35 But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"

• 36 Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies.

• 37 And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain.

38 But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

1. Dissolution: The original form is dissolved



- The first similarity is of dissolution / dying
- That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies

- Not until the seed dies, does the plant live
- Death brings out the power that is in the seed

1. Dissolution: The original form is dissolved



- Romans 8:11
- "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."
- If you have believed in Him, the Spirit of Christ is not here now only, He will also eventually give you a completely glorious and perfect body

1. Dissolution: The original form is dissolved



- Applying the same figure, the Lord Jesus said in John 12:24
 - "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."
- Before Christ could bear the fruit of salvation for us, He had to die
 - Likewise, before we can participate in the fruit of His resurrection, or bear fruit in His service, we too must die

1 Corinthians 15:35-38

- 35 But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"
- 36 Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies.
- 37 And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain.
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1 Cor. 15:37 - "And **what you sow**, you do not sow **that body that shall be**, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain.



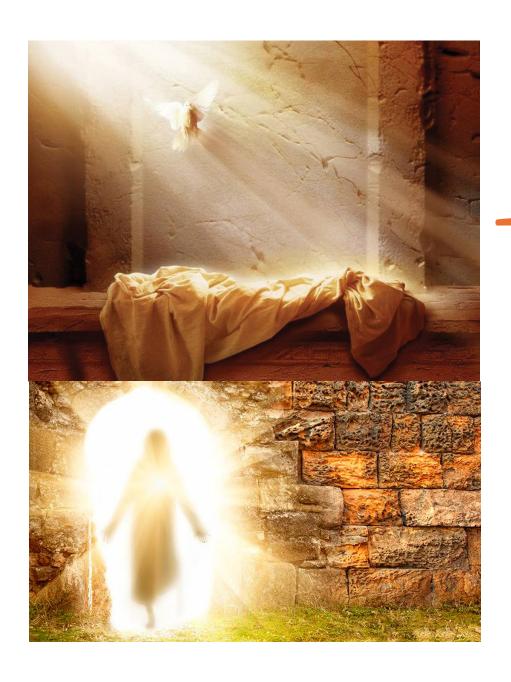
The seed
"What you sow"



"That body that shall be"

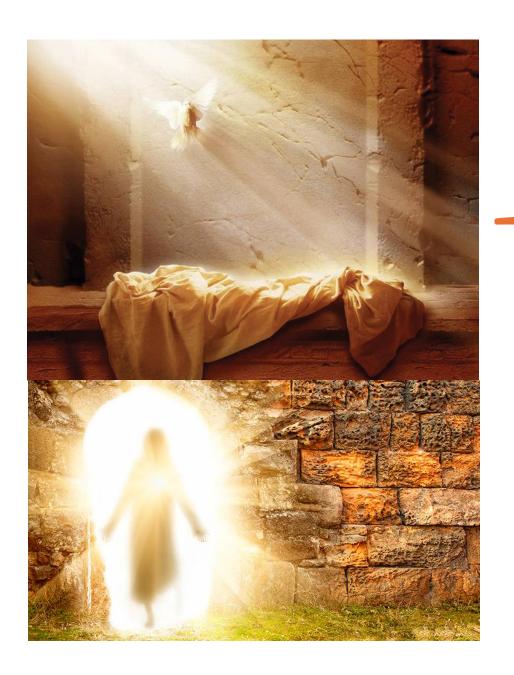
The plant

The seed looks nothing like the mature plant!



- When the Lord Jesus was raised from the dead
 - His glorified body was radically different from what was placed in the grave
 - No longer limited by time, space, and material substance
 - During His appearances, the Lord Jesus went from one place to another without traveling in any physical way
 - He appeared and disappeared at will, and entered rooms without opening the door (Luke 24:15, 31, 36; John 20:19)

 In His earthly body, He had done none of those things



- Resurrection changed the Lord's body in marvelous and radical ways
- At His return, all resurrection bodies will be changed marvelously and radically too

1 Corinthians 15:35-38

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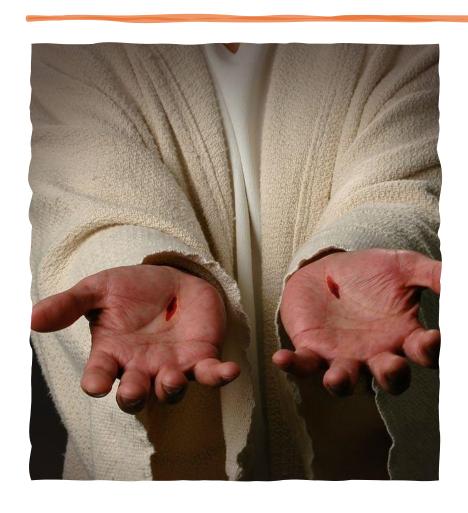
3. Continuity: Yet the two forms have a continuity



 1 Cor. 15:38b - "...to each seed its own body."

 The seed changes radically but it continues as the same life form

3. Continuity: Yet the two forms have a continuity

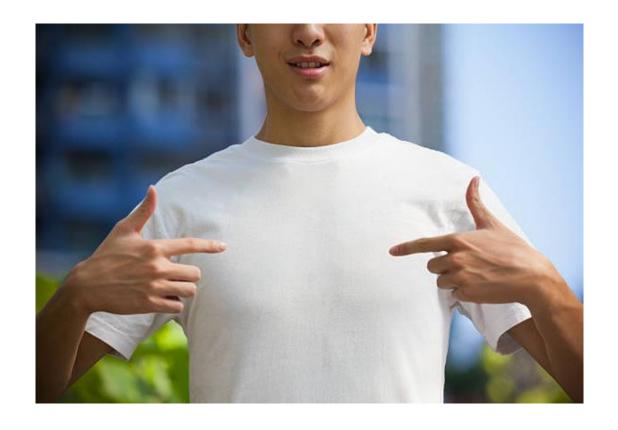


- After the Lord Jesus was raised, He was recognizable when He revealed Himself
- He was in His resurrected body but it was still His body!

3. Continuity: Yet the two forms have a continuity

 In a similar way, our resurrected bodies as believers will have a continuity with the bodies we have now

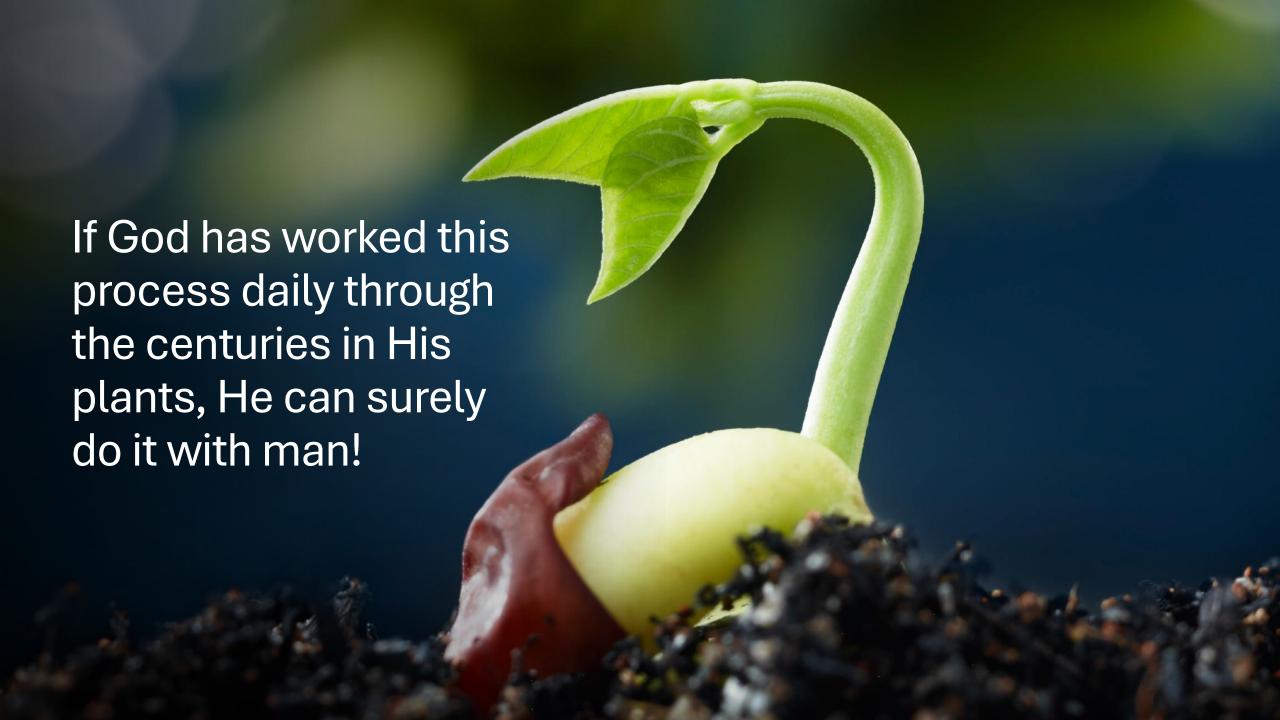
You will still be you!



An Illustration of Resurrection (v.36-38)

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The Form of Resurrection Bodies (v. 39-42a)



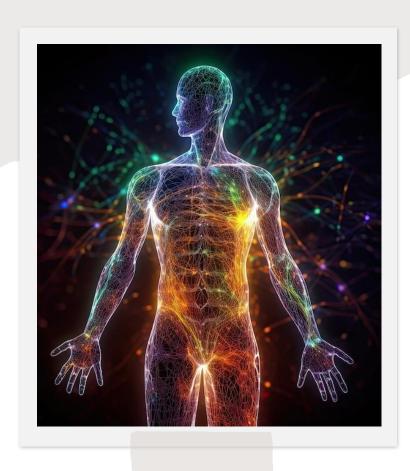
1 Corinthians 15:39-41

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• 40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

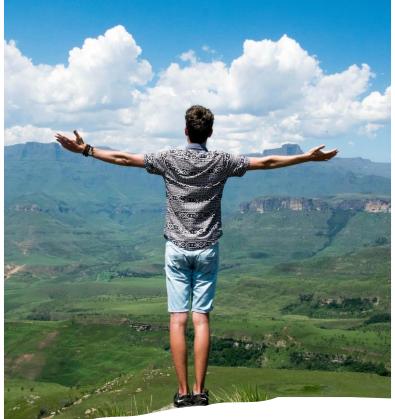
• 41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

The Form of Resurrection Bodies



 To illustrate the fact that the glory of the resurrection body is different from the glory of our present bodies, Paul points out that all flesh is not the same kind of flesh





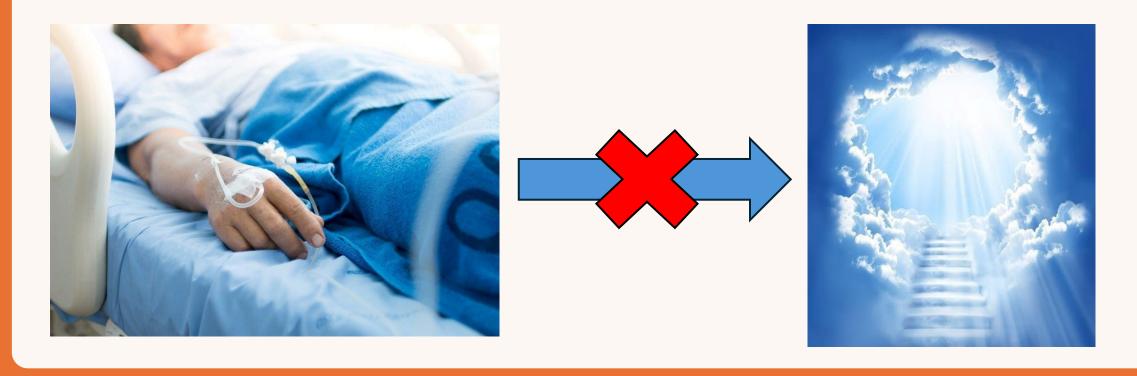


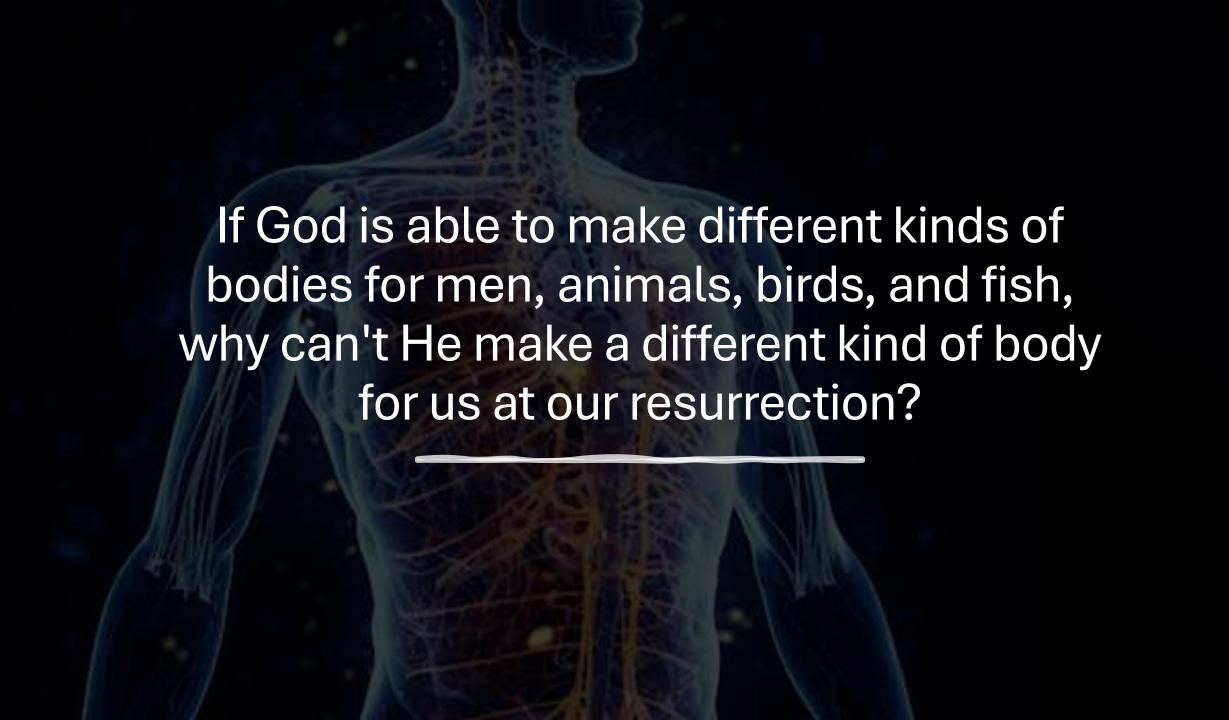




Without a new body, we are out of our element

1 Cor. 15:50 – "Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God**; nor does corruption inherit incorruption."



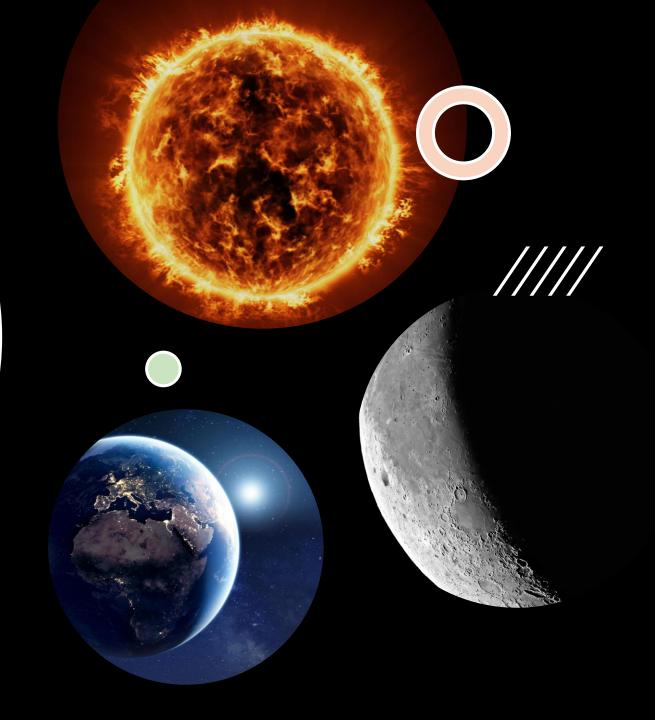


1 Corinthians 15:39-41

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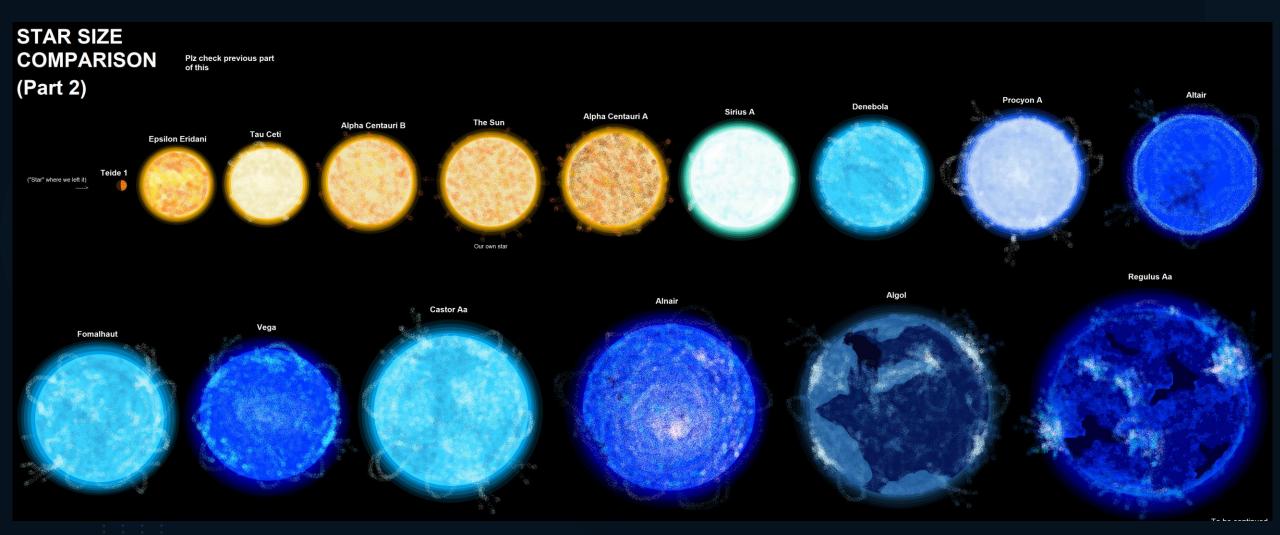
• 40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

 41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory. 1 Cor. 15:41a - "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon..."



1 Cor. 15:41b - "...and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory."

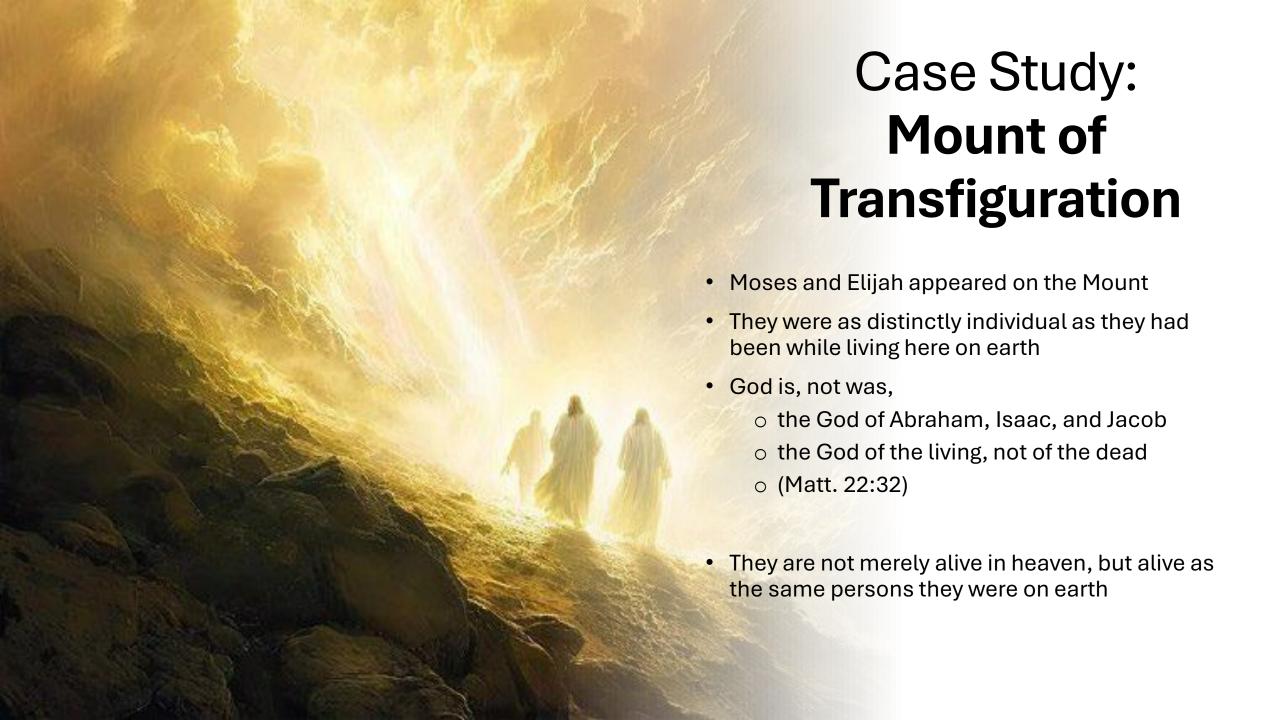
1 Cor. 15:41b - "...and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory."



One star differs from another star?

- As unique as every star is, we will retain our own uniqueness
- We will keep our personal existence
- We will keep our individuality!





The Glory of our Resurrection Body will be different from the Glory of our Present Body!







1 Corinthians 15:42-44

• 42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

• 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. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Perishable vs Imperishable

- Durability
- Subject to deterioration and eventual death
- Even in the healthy infant the process of aging and deterioration has begun
- Ecc. 3:20 "All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again."





News

UK's King Charles diagnosed with cancer: Buckingham Palace

The type of cancer has not been revealed, but the king has started 'regular treatments', Buckingham Palace says.



Britain's King Charles and Queen Camilla leave Buckingham Palace for the opening of Parliament ceremony at the Houses of Parliament, in London [File: Peter Nicholls/Reuters]







Cryogenics



Perishable vs Imperishable

- Resurrection body raised an imperishable body
- 1 Peter 1:3-4
- Our bodies will know no sickness, decay, deterioration, or death
- 1 Cor. 15:54a "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality..."

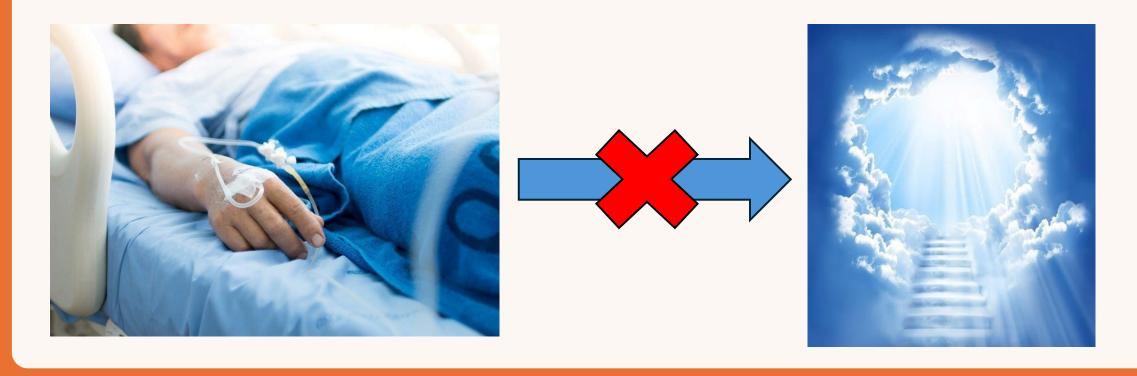


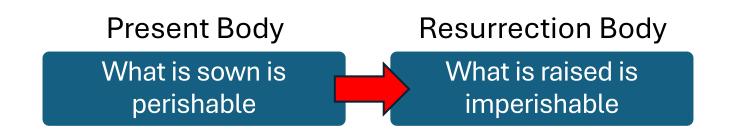


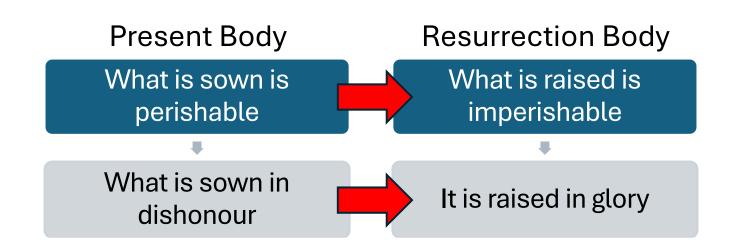


Without an immortal body, how can we inherit the incorruptible?

1 Cor. 15:50 – "Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God**; nor does corruption inherit incorruption."







1 Corinthians 15:42-44

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Dishonour vs Glory

Value and Potential

- Through sin, we dishonour God by misusing and abusing the bodies given
- Even the most faithful believer dies with his/her body in a state of dishonour, a state of imperfection, and incompleteness

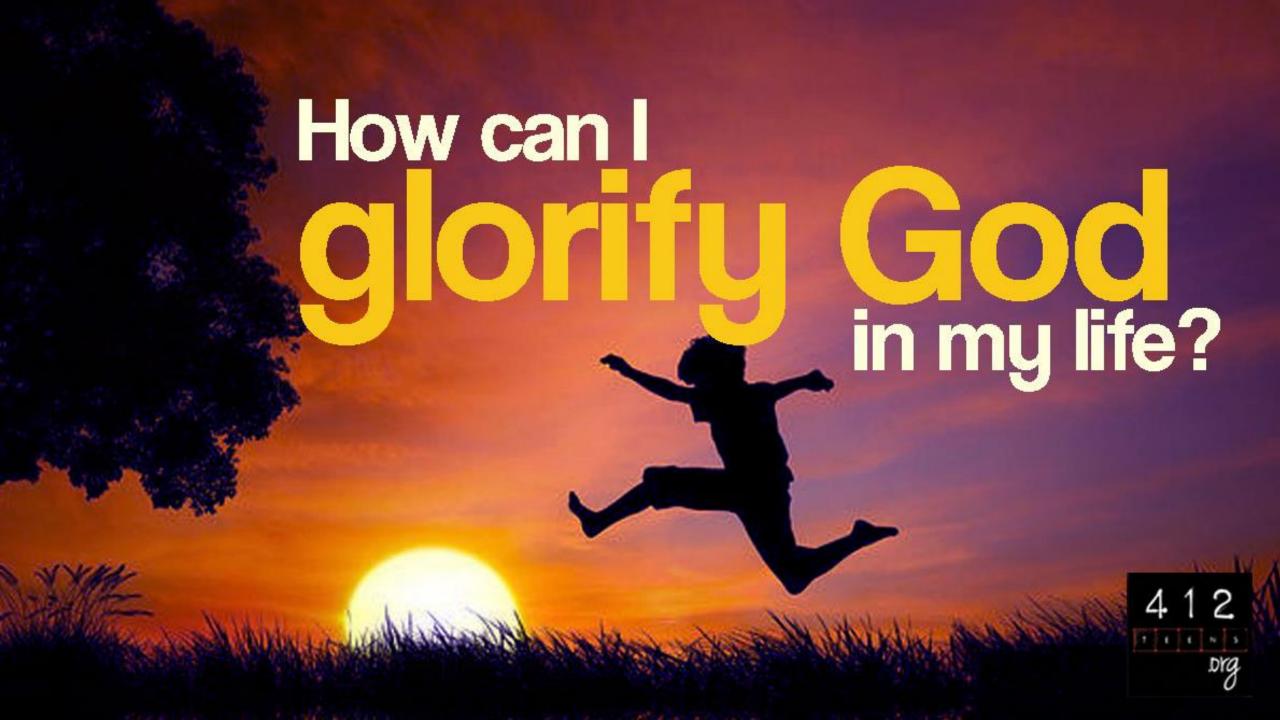


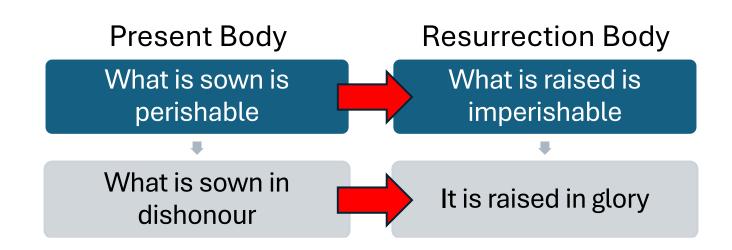
Dishonour vs Glory

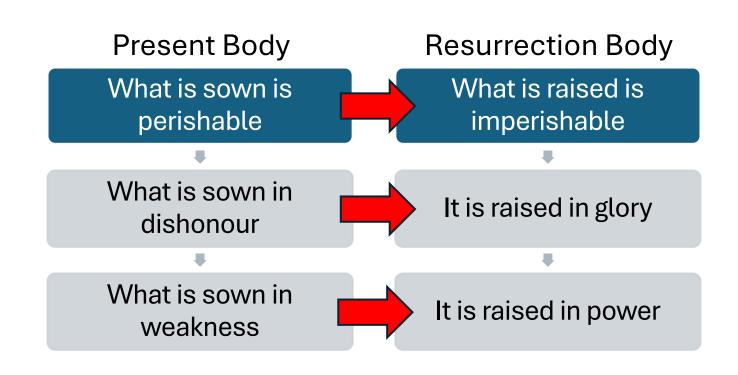
- Raised in glory
- Throughout eternity, our new immortal bodies will also be glorified honourable bodies, perfected for pleasing, praising, and enjoying our Redeemer
- We're going to be made into bright, stainless mirrors
 - So we will reflect back to God
 - His own boundless love, goodness, graciousness, greatness, and nobility



• We will become true vessels unto honour (2 Tim. 2:20-21)







1 Corinthians 15:42-44

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Weakness vs Power

Ability

 We are weak not only in strength/endurance, we are weak in resistance to disease and harm









Weakness vs Power

- Capable of infinite growth, infinite sensation raised in power
- We will not need to say "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak" (Matt. 26:41)
- 1 Cor. 2:9 "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

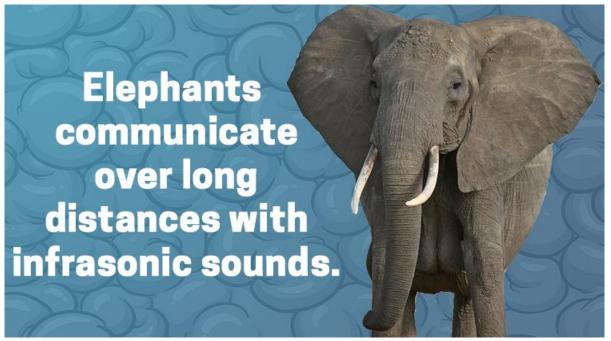




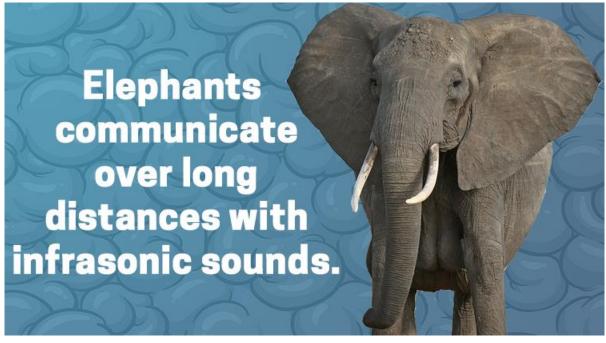
Superhuman strength?





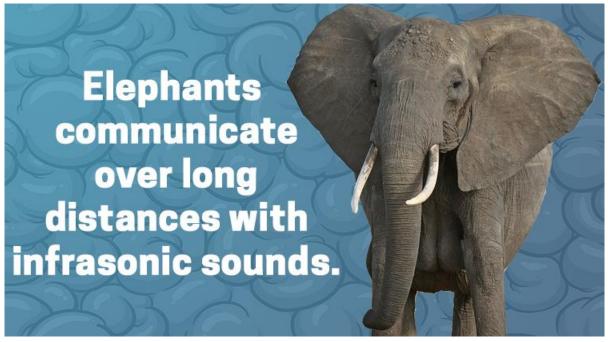




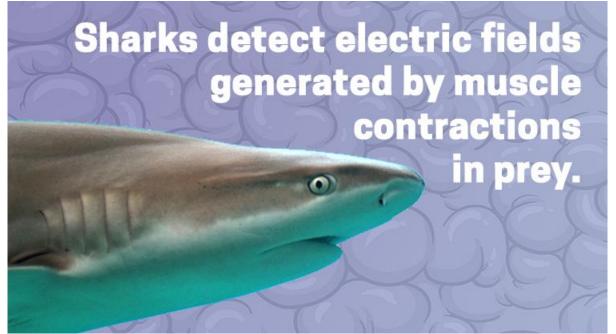








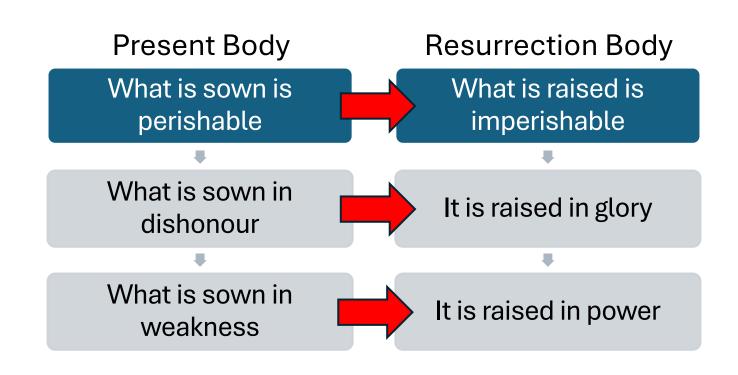




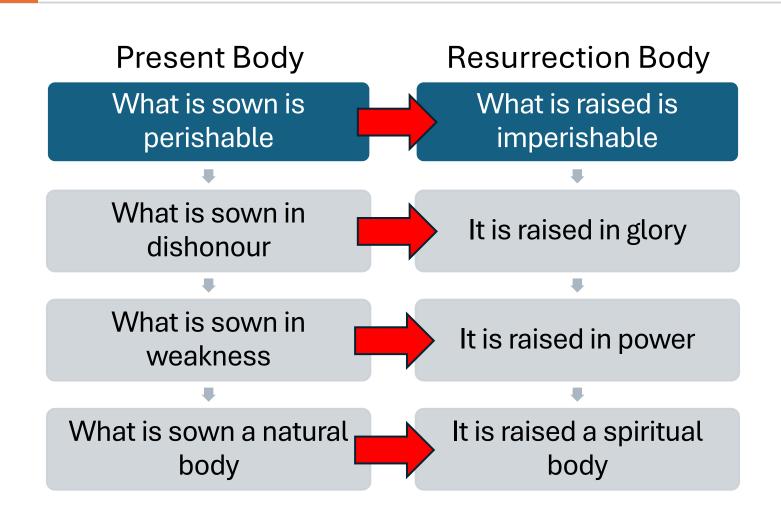
Body of Power – Senses

• We have 5 senses now





Our Present Body vs Our Resurrection Body



1 Corinthians 15:42-44

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• 43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

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Natural vs Spiritual

- Sphere / Realm / Existence
- Our earthly body is strictly natural
 - Suited for and limited to the physical world



Natural vs Spiritual

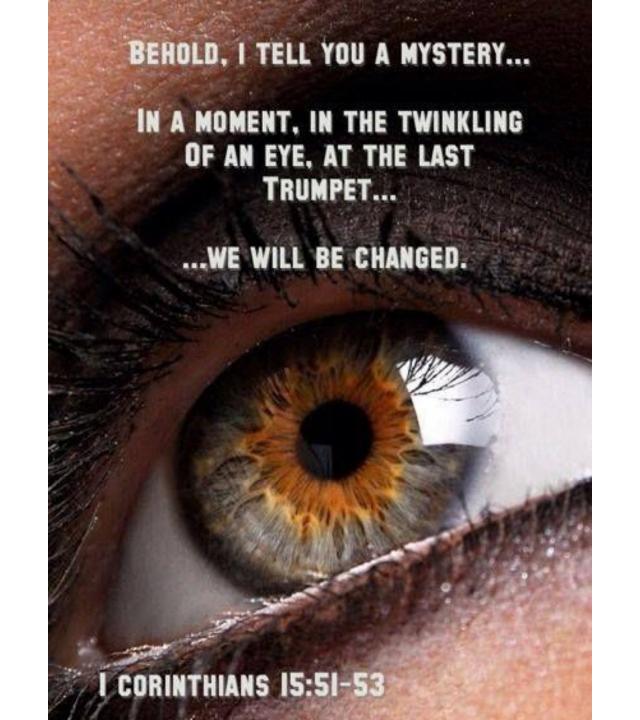
- The new resurrection body will be a spiritual body
 - "Spiritual" here does not mean nonmaterial
 - Luke 24:39 "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have."
- We will be perfectly suited in body and spirit for heavenly living





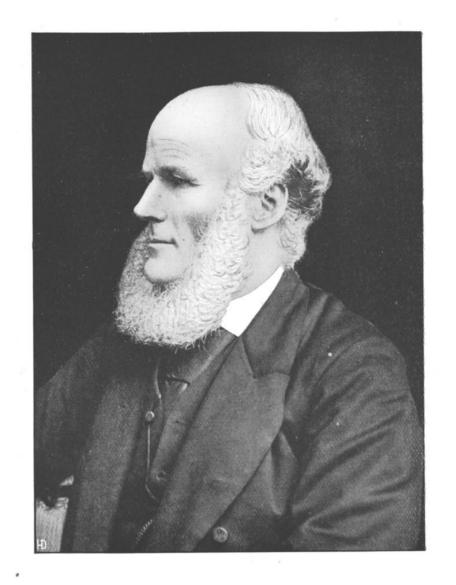
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- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
- 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.



C. H. Mackintosh

 "What are death, the grave, and decomposition in the presence of such power as this? Talk of being dead four days as a difficulty! Millions that have been mouldering in the dust for thousands of years shall spring up in a moment into life, immortality and eternal glory, at the voice of that blessed One."



What can we learn about God from this?

God is a God of the physical realm

- He likes the physical
- He likes matter
- He created the physical
- He became physical to redeem us
- The Bible does not say only the souls of people need to be saved, it does not matter if they are hungry



The Physical is Important

- When we see
 - Hunger
 - Disease
 - o Pain
- We know that God hates it
 - Our Lord Jesus came and took on human flesh to destroy these things
 - o He died to deal with it
- We minister in word and deed



- We will eat
- We will drink
- We will hug
- We will love
- We will sing
- We will walk
- We will march
- We will know each other



- We will eat
- We will drink
- We will hug
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- We will know each other



Revelation 22:1-2a

"And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits..."

- We will eat
- We will drink
- We will hug
- We will love
- We will sing
- We will walk
- We will march
- We will know each other



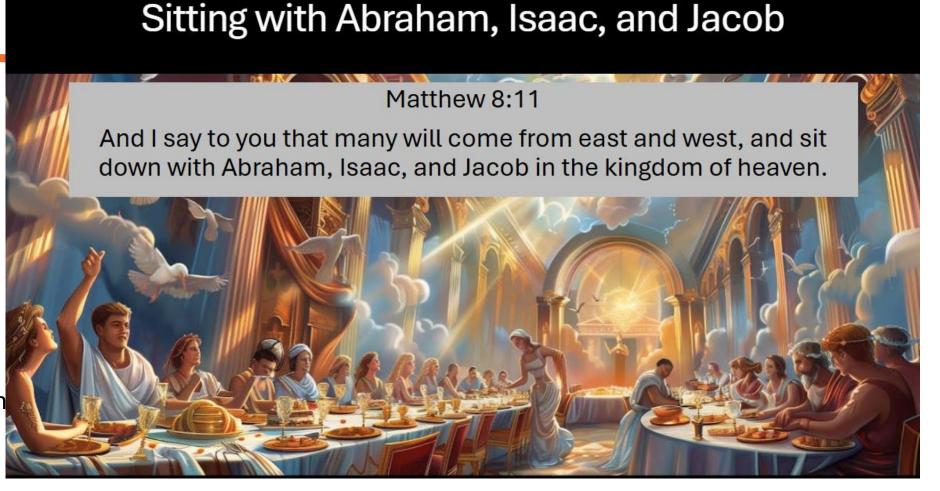
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When?



1 Corinthians 15:54-58

- 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."
- 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"
- 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.
- 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

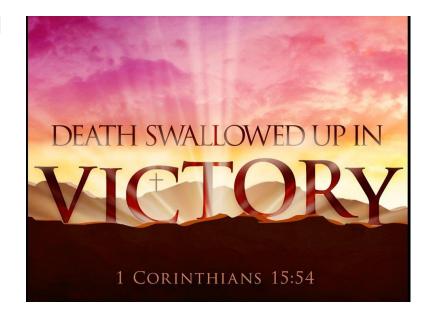
Death is Swallowed Up in Victory

- Christ's resurrection broke the power of death for those who believe in Him and death is no longer master over them because "death no longer is master over Him" (Romans 6:9)
- But death is STILL the enemy of man
 - We no longer need fear death, but it still invades and torments us while we are mortal



Death is Swallowed Up in Victory

- But one day
 - When Christ returns
 When this "corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality"
 - Then comes the great triumph that Isaiah predicted
 - Death is swallowed up in victory!!!
- Isaiah 25:8
 - "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it."



1 Corinthians 15:54-58

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- How did Christ make it possible to raise us from the dead?
- v. 55 "O Death, where is your sting?"
- v. 56 "The **sting of death** is sin"

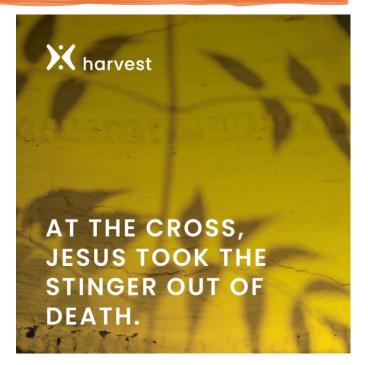
How did Christ make it possible to raise us from the dead?

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O Death, where is... sin?

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- 1 Cor. 15:3 "...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures"

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- O Death, where is... sin?



1 Cor. 15:3 - "...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures"

- Galatians 3:13a "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being **made a curse for us**:..."
- He took our curse and our condemnation and gives us victory over sin and death
- In Christ's victory over death, death's sting is removed



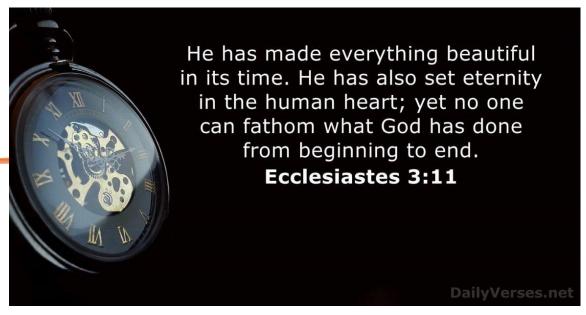
Hebrews 2:14-15

- "14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
- 15 And deliver them who through **fear of death** were all their lifetime subject to bondage."



Underneath...

- Underneath all the diets,
 - Is a desire for new bodies
- Underneath all the makeup / wigs,
 - Is a desire for new skin
- Underneath the **materialism** / always buying new things
- Underneath the desire for the **new** in your heart
- It's a hunger for the <u>eternity of God</u>
- It's a hunger for newness





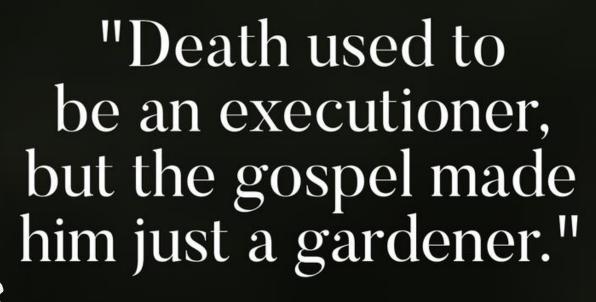
John 11:25-26

• "25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

• 26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"









Because He Lives

- God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus;
- He came to love, heal and forgive;
- He lived and died to buy my pardon,
- An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!
- Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
- Because He lives, all fear is gone;
- Because I know He holds the future,
- And life is worth the living,
- Just because He lives!

Because He Lives

- And then one day, I'll cross the river,
- I'll fight life's final war with pain;
- And then, as death gives way to victory,
- I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!
- Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
- Because He lives, all fear is gone;
- Because I know He holds the future,
- And life is worth the living,
- Just because He lives!

DEATH SWALLOWED UP IN

1 CORINTHIANS 15:54

The Resurrection Body

1 Cor. 15:35-58