

Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

The Resurrection Body

³⁵ But someone may ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?" ³⁶ How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

Q1. Regarding this phrase: "does not come to life unless it dies"; since we are believers in Jesus Christ and we are alive, what point is Paul trying to make?

Q2. How is the "seed" a good example (or symbol) of a Believer's journey?

³⁷ When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body.

Q3. How is this explanation of a "plant seed" similar to humans and animals?

³⁹ All flesh is not the same: Men have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another.

Q4. What are "earthly bodies"?

Day 2

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⁴⁰ There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. ⁴¹ The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

Q5. How are “heavenly bodies” different from “earthly bodies”?

⁴² So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 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. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

Q6. Verse 42: What does this mean to you, “The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable”?

Q7. Verse 43: What does it mean that “The body... is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory”?

Q8. Verse 43: What does it mean that “The body... is sown in weakness, it is raised in power”?

Philippians 3:20-21

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Day 3

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⁴⁵ So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being" [Genesis 2:7]; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.

Q9. Who is the first Adam? And who is the last Adam?

1st Adam?

Last Adam?

Q10. What does "a life-giving spirit" mean to you?

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession -- to the praise of his glory.

⁴⁶ The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

Q11. How would you explain verses 46-49?

⁵⁰ I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Q12. I thought that Believers in Christ Jesus “inherit[ed] the Kingdom of God”. Why does Paul write that “flesh and blood cannot inherit”?

⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed — ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Q13. What might be the “last trumpet” to which Paul is referring?

 Verse 51: “The Apostle believed that the end of the world might come in the lifetime of some then living. We shall not all, he says, necessarily sleep, but we shall all be changed. The change from the earthly to the spiritual body is absolutely necessary. To some it will come through the ordinary process of death; to those who are alive at Christ’s advent it will come suddenly, and in a moment. The dead shall be raised, but [the living at the time] shall be changed.” [©about 1880, Ellicott’s Commentary for English Readers, edited by Charles J Ellicott. https://biblehub.com/commentaries/1_corinthians/15-51.htm]

 Verse 52: “The trumpet was used to summon an assembly (Exodus 20:18; Psalm 81:3; Isaiah 18:3; Isaiah 27:13) or to sound a warning. The last trumpet is the one which concludes a series which have already been sounding at intervals in notes of warning to the nations (Psalm 47:5; Isaiah 27:13; Jeremiah 51:27). This verse states with reiterated emphasis that this change shall not be a protracted process, but a sudden and momentary

alteration in the condition of our bodies.” [©about 1880, Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers, edited by Charles J Ellicott.
https://biblehub.com/commentaries/1_corinthians/15-52.htm]

Day 4

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⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." [Isaiah 25:8]

Q14. Paul just wrote in verse 50 that the “perishable [does not] inherit the imperishable”. How would you explain this apparent contradiction?

Q15. How would you explain the Isaiah 25:8 passage quoted in verse 54?

⁵⁵ "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" [Hosea 13:14] ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Q16. What is “the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” that we are given?

⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Q17. Quickly skim chapter 15. Is there any particular passage that the Holy Spirit seems to want you to take as your own?

Day 5

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1 Corinthians 16:1-24

The Collection for God's People

¹ Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. ² On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. ³ Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. ⁴ If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me.

Q18. Why was it important to send money to Jerusalem?

Personal Requests

⁵ After I go through Macedonia, I will come to you — for I will be going through Macedonia. ⁶ Perhaps I will stay with you awhile, or even spend the winter, so that you can help me on my journey, wherever I go. ⁷ I do not want to see you now and make only a passing visit; I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits. ⁸ But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

Q19. Do you find it interesting that Paul puts these two thoughts in the same sentence: “a great door for effective work has opened to me” AND “there are many who oppose me”?

Q20. Why does Paul want to remain in Ephesus, after all he is facing opposition?

¹⁰ If Timothy comes, see to it that he has nothing to fear while he is with you, for he is carrying on the work of the Lord, just as I am. ¹¹ No one, then, should refuse to accept him. Send him on his way in peace so that he may return to me. I am expecting him along with the brothers.

¹² Now about our brother Apollos: I strongly urged him to go to you with the brothers. He was quite unwilling to go now, but he will go when he has the opportunity.

¹³ Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.

¹⁴ Do everything in love.

Q21. Verses 13-14: is there any application for us in these verses? Why or why not?

¹⁵ You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints. I urge you, brothers, ¹⁶ to submit to such as these and to everyone who joins in the work, and labors at it. ¹⁷ I was glad when Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus arrived, because they have supplied what was lacking from you. ¹⁸ For they refreshed my spirit and yours also. Such men deserve recognition.

Day 6

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Final Greetings

¹⁹ The churches in the province of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Priscilla greet you warmly in the Lord, and so does the church that meets at their house. ²⁰ All the brothers here send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

²¹ I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand.

²² If anyone does not love the Lord — a curse be on him. Come, O Lord [In Aramaic the expression "Come, O Lord" is "Marana tha"!]

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

²⁴ My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Q22. Do you have any heartfelt take-aways from this study of Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians?

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