

1Corinthians – Week 58

- I. Quiz & Review: The Resurrection Body (1Cor. 15:35-50)**
- A. Paul addresses the objections that are made regarding the resurrection**
- i. **The first objection: How are the dead raised?**
 1. How can a dead body that decomposes and turns to dust be recollected and reorganize?
 - ii. **The second objection: With what kind of body do they come?**
 1. If the dead come back to life, will they be in the same form when they died.
 2. Paul answers these questions in verses 36-50...
- B. We see dead things coming back to life in nature!**
- i. A seed is planted and it dies and decomposes, but from it, springs forth a new life form, different from the seed and matures, bearing more seeds.
 - ii. **What God does with seeds, He will do with humans too!**
 1. They die in one form of body (like the seed) and come back in another form of body (like the plant).
- C. The kind of body we will have will be fit for the spiritual kingdom of Heaven:**
- i. It will be a glorious, powerful, immortal, incorruptible, imperishable, spiritual body!
 1. How will it look like? That has not been revealed yet!
 - a. 1John 3:2 (ESV), *“Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”*
- II. Continuation: The Mystery Revealed**
- A. Now, Paul was about to reveal something never revealed before!**
- B. As an apostle, not only did he have the gift of prophesy, but he was given the gift of knowledge...**
- C. 1Cor. 15:51-53 (ESV), *“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 imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.”***
- i. In 1Thessalonians 4:15-17, Paul revealed how those who are dead in Christ would rise up from their graves and meet the Lord in the air, followed by those who are still alive.
 - ii. But here, Paul reveals that before we meet the Lord in the air, we will all be changed – both the dead and the living – in a flash!
- D. 1Cor. 15:54-55 (ESV), *“When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ ⁵⁵ ‘O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’”***
- i. At this time, Isaiah 25:8 will be fulfilled:
 1. Isaiah 25:8 (ESV), *“He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.”*
 - a. Physical death will no longer exist, at this point, it will be tossed into the lake of fire, along with Hades (cf. Revelation 20:14)
 - b. And God’s people will no longer be persecuted and disgraced for their biblical convictions!
 - c. And all His people will be under the Father’s rule, never again to contend with forces of darkness! (cf. vv. 24-28)

2. **Death – the great robber of man’s happiness will be forever banished!**
 - a. **The truth and glory of the resurrection makes this possible!**
 - b. **The word of the last Adam, Jesus, has repaired the ruins of the first Adam, which brought death to all creatures on the earth!**
 - c. **And everything which leads up to death – sickness, age, accidents, sin – will all be gone!**
 - d. **At the resurrection, we will all exclaim:**
 - i. **O Death: Where is your painful sting? Our hearts mourned! Our bodies succumbed! But now, your poisonous, sorrowful bite has been reduced to nothing!**
 - ii. **O Death: Where is your victory? You claimed so many but now you claim none! For our bodies are powerful against you!**
- E. **1Cor. 15:56-57 (ESV), “*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*”**
- i. **It is sin that brings death and it what brings sin to light is the law of God**
 1. **Romans 3:19-20 (ESV), “*Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.*”**
 - a. **The law makes everyone aware of their sin.**
 - ii. **It was Jesus’ death that took care of our sin problem and his resurrection removes our grave problem at His coming!**
 1. **He truly is the way, the truth and the life, no one can go to the Father except through Him! (John 14:6)**
 - iii. **And it is through Jesus, we have the grace to enable us to sustain the pains of death and to have the hope of the glorious resurrection!**
 - iv. **Knowing this is what forever binds us to His love!**
- F. **1Cor. 15:58 (ESV), “*Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*”**
- i. **In view of the forgiveness of sins and the glory of the resurrection:**
 1. **Be steadfast – be fixed in the faith; firm; settled; confident in the Lord; Don’t be tossed by every wind of doctrine nor by the wisdom of men!**
 2. **Be immovable – be firmly planted; deeply rooted in the teachings of Christ!**
 3. **Always be in the work of the Lord:**
 - a. **Keep promoting His glory!**
 - b. **Keep sharing the gospel!**
 - c. **Keep advancing His kingdom!**
 - d. **Never tire of doing what is right (2Thess. 3:13)**
 - e. **Keep encouraging each other!**
 - f. **Keep spurring each other in love!**
 4. **Your labor in the Lord is not in vain!**
 - a. **You will experience the resurrection and you will share eternal happiness in the new world!**