

# Resurrection Body

*Ray Stedman*

## I. Introduction.

A. Text: II Corinthians 4.

B. There is something ahead for us in this life.

## II. Heaven is not quite as many have imagined.

A. It is not merely sitting around on a cloud.

B. The tree of life is a symbol of what God has for us. (Romans 5)

1. The constant inner renewal and our outer decay points to something beyond. One finds himself growing if he is walking with the Lord.

2. The present trouble the believer goes through prepares one for something beyond. A weight of glory is being prepared for the believer. (II Corinthians 11)

3. Our unseen hope suggests that something greater is coming.

C. The Christian's privilege is to know something that others do not.

1. The Christians know that they live in a tent right now—our body now is not intended to be permanent.

2. The body that we have is beyond anything of human design.

3. The body is already in existence in heaven.

4. This body is a super body. (I Corinthians 15)

D. What happens between death and the resurrection.

1. Some say that there is soul sleep, but Paul talks about being absent from the body and present with the Lord.

2. In eternity, everything happens at once—time is not a matter of concern for God.

a. In God's perspective, everything is happening now.

b. Time is relative.

c. When a believer dies, he immediately experiences the coming of the Lord.

d. At the moment of death, a believer steps into his new resurrected body.

e. All believers will be perfected together.

E. The resurrection body will be responsive to the demands of the spirit. With this provision, God opens up the entire universe.

III. The believer always has good courage.

A. The Spirit has been given as a down payment for the resurrection body. We operate on resurrection power.

B. In either case, we are home. Whether in the body or away, the aim is to please God through faith. (Hebrews 11)

**Application questions:**

1. How is the Christian view of heaven different from what culture teaches?

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2. In your opinion, what happens between a believer's death and the final resurrection? Explain.

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3. How can we gain courage as believers in the face of death? How could you comfort someone close, facing death, with this truth?

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