

The New Body: What Is It Like?

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Corinthians 15:25-49.

B. The Corinthians were skeptical about the resurrection of the body, so they raised several questions about it.

II. How the dead are raised.

A. Plants growing from seeds placed in the ground picture resurrection.

B. Death is essential step for resurrection—it is not an obstacle to it.

III. What kind of body the dead received.

A. There are bodies of different kinds.

B. These differences are the result of different personalities that beings have—there is a correspondence to what the body looks like and what the being inside is like.

C. There is a marked difference between heavenly bodies and earthly bodies.

1. Heavenly bodies shine.

2. The glory of the earthly body is in its distinct function.

D. There is a difference in the glory of celestial bodies as it is with the resurrection of the dead.

1. The body decays but the resurrection body does not.

2. From within, Jesus is imparting life right now to the soul and is waiting to restore the body as well.

E. The hope the believer has is that when Jesus appears the believer will be like Him. (I John 3)

Application questions:

1. How important is a belief in the resurrection of the dead to Christian doctrine? Explain.

2. How does the picture Paul creates give the believer hope concerning the resurrection?

3. What difference does it make to you knowing that those who trust in Christ experience a physical resurrection?
