



A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

# THE NATURE OF THE RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:35-58

## 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-34

Vain belief (2)

Useless preaching (14)

Futile faith (17)

“Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die” (32)

The victory of Jesus sets us  
free from a life of vanity.

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THE NATURE OF  
THE RESURRECTION



# FROM VANITY TO VICTORY!

What?

How?

What now?



What?  
How?  
What now?

1 Corinthians 15:35-41 <sup>NIV</sup>

**But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?”** <sup>36</sup> How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. <sup>39</sup> Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. <sup>40</sup> 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. <sup>41</sup> The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

What?  
How?  
What now?

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What?  
How?  
What now?

## 1 Corinthians 15:42-49 <sup>NIV</sup>

**So will it be with the resurrection of the dead.** The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; <sup>43</sup> it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; <sup>44</sup> it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, **so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man.**

What?  
How?  
What now?

## 1 Corinthians 15:42-49 <sup>NIV</sup>

So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is **perishable**, it is raised **imperishable**; <sup>43</sup> it is sown in **dishonor**, it is raised in **glory**; it is sown in **weakness**, it is raised in **power**; <sup>44</sup> it is sown a **natural** body, it is raised a **spiritual** body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> So it is written: “The first man **Adam** became a living being”; the **last Adam**, a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was of the dust of the **earth**; the second man is of **heaven**. <sup>48</sup> As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man.



What?  
How?  
What now?

### 1 Corinthians 15:50-53 <sup>NIV</sup>

I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. <sup>51</sup> Listen, I tell you a mystery: **We will not all sleep**, but we will all be changed— <sup>52</sup> 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. <sup>53</sup> For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

What?  
How?  
What now?

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How?  
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What?  
How?  
What now?

### Philippians 3:20-21 <sup>NIV</sup>

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> 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.**

### Romans 6:5 <sup>NIV</sup>

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, **we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.**

## ON THE BELIEVER'S RESURRECTED BODY

“that form will be appropriate for an age and a world in which nothing perishes”

“appropriate to the realm or environment in which it will then be living”

“as God created him or her to be, without intrusion of sin or decay”

Paul Gardner, *1 Corinthians Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament*

What?  
How?  
What now?

### 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 <sup>NIV</sup>

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.”**

<sup>55</sup> “Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God! **He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Vanity** → **Victory**  
Spiritual Death → Spiritual Life  
Perishable → Imperishable  
Dishonor → Glory  
Weakness → Power  
Natural → Spiritual  
Adam/Living → Last Adam/Life-Giving  
Earthly Man → Heavenly Man  
Mortal → Immortal



**Justification**  
(Past)



**Sanctification**  
(Present)



**Glorification**  
(Future)





What?  
How?  
What now?

Romans 8:23 <sup>NIV</sup>

Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly **as we wait eagerly** for our adoption to sonship, **the redemption of our bodies.**

2 Corinthians 3:18 <sup>NIV</sup>

We all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, **are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory**, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

What?  
How?  
What now?

1 Corinthians 15:58 <sup>NIV</sup>

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, **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.

What?  
How?  
What now?

Our labor/work in the  
“body” is not in vain.

Mission • People • Temple • Gifts



The victory of Jesus sets us  
free from a life of vanity.

