

RESURRECTION CLARIFIED

(1Cor 15:35-49)

To answer questions about the resurrection, look at Nature and Scripture

- **QUESTIONS:** *“How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?”* (35)
 - Underlying MISUNDERSTANDING: Our resurrection bodies will consist of the same natures as our present bodies
 - Paul answers this misunderstanding by arguing that although our present bodies and resurrection bodies may both be material and identical, they will be *organized* differently
- **CLARIFICATION:** *“Open your eyes! Look around! Use your head! Think about it!”* (36-49)
- **Answers from NATURE** (36-44)
 - Look at *plant life* (36-38)
 - Look at *animal life* (39)
 - Look at *astronomy* (40-41)
 - Then, *apply* your observations to the resurrection of the body (42-44)
 - *Conclusion:* don't doubt the fact of the resurrection because you don't understand the process
- **Answers from SCRIPTURE** (45-49)
 - 45—*So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being,” the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.* Just as the first Adam passed on his nature, so the last Adam will pass on His nature
 - 46—*The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.* Remember the right order of things
 - 47—*The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven.* This is an illustration of 46 pointing to ORIGIN
 - 48—*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.* Application for those “in Christ.” We are His risen people
 - 49—*And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man—continually, habitually, in this life so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man—continually, habitually, in the next life*

- **1Thes 4:13-5:11**—*Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.*

5:1—Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ²for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

- **2Cor 4:8-18**—*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. ¹²So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.*

¹³It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. ¹⁵All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

¹⁶Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

- **RESPONSE**