

*Raised Imperishable*  
*1 Cor. 15:35-50*

*"Why does God go to all the trouble to dirty his hands to reestablish your body and clothe it with immortality? Because his Son paid the price of his life so that God could be glorified in your body forever and ever. "You were bought with a price, therefore glorify God with your bodies." God will not dishonor the work of his Son. That's why he will raise your body.*

*The sting of death is sin (15:56), but Christ bore the curse of sin. The power of sin is the law (15:56), but Christ satisfied the demands of the law. Therefore Paul cries out, "Thanks be to God who gives the victory through Jesus Christ." When Christ died, he forgave sin and fulfilled the law and defeated death and obtained not just our souls but also our bodies.*

*Therefore God will honor the work of his Son by raising your body from the dead, and you will use your body to glorify him forever and ever. That is why you have a body now. And that is why it will be raised imperishable." John Piper*

- I. The second God brought us into this world in a fallen, perishable state of existence, he was preparing us for death so that we could receive an imperishable body capable of an eternal existence with him in the supernatural realm. We must die, so that our perishable, dishonorable, weak body racked by sin, can be resurrected as a powerful, glorious, imperishable, spiritual body free from the effects of the fall. He will transform us to shine like the brightness of heaven, which will cause us to shout for joy over what the gift of salvation means for us.

1 Cor. 15:35-44

Dan. 12:2-3

Isa. 26:19

Luke 24:31,36

John 20:26

Ps. 103:13-16

Rev. 21:3-5

**Job 19:25-27** *I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes-I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!*

- II. The new resurrected spiritual body we will receive when we are raptured will be of the same nature as our current bodies, but superior in every way. We will function at a different level of existence with other worldly properties, meaning that we will no longer be confined by the physical properties of our current level of existence. It is not a stretch to think that since we will be like Jesus (1 Jn. 3:2), we will be able to travel through space and time instantaneously (Lk. 24:31) and pass through structures effortlessly (Jn. 20:19) just like he did.

1 Cor. 15:45-49

Luke 20:34-36

**Philippians 3:20-21** *20But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the LORD Jesus Christ, 21who, 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.*

- III. In order for our resurrection to take place, we must possess eternal life in our current state of existence before we die. No one can inherit the kingdom of God unless they are born again. For those of us who are, we are to live by faith day by day. Nothing in this life is worth losing the hope and joy of our salvation.

1 Cor. 15:50

Rom. 1:17

**John 3:5-7** *Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'*