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Your New Body - Immortal, Powerful, Glorious, and Spiritual



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #268 ~

Why is it so important to know about your brand-new glorified body? Because it's really good news!!! Because you live in a body that's sin-prone, that gets sick, tired, and is getting old, and you need hope of a brand new body. Because we live in a world that is fixated on our mortal body, and God wants you to be thinking about the immortal body He will be giving you. Because your salvation is not complete until you receive your new body. Because there's so much in the Bible on this subject. And because it won't be long before it happens.

Today, we are looking at 1 Corinthians 15, gleaning several truths from it about your glorified body. To summarize: 1) We are reminded of the primacy of the gospel message, and that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, the first person to receive a glorified body. 2) We learn that

all believers, those who have already died and those alive at the coming of Christ, will be given a new body at that time. 3) We get a glimpse of our Christ-like body, that it is imperishable, glorious, powerful, and spiritual. 4) We learn that we need a perfect body that is fit for the future, that can fully worship and serve the Lord in the coming ages. 5) We are instructed how we are to live on this earth in view of the glorious future God has in store for us.

1) 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 states the essential truth of the gospel, that Jesus Christ died to pay for our sins, and was raised from the dead, proving His victory over sin and death. 1 Cor. 15:20 tells us that Christ is the first fruits, the first person to be raised from the dead and glorified, to be given an immortal and imperishable body. This took place about 2000 years ago.

2) 1 Corinthians 15:22-23 teaches that all believers are Christs and are in Christ, and will be made alive, will be glorified at His coming. That the resurrection and glorification of believers takes place at His coming is an extremely important point, shown by the fact that three other prophecy passages, Matt. 24:27-31, 1 Thess. 4:15-17, and 2 Thess. 2:1, tell us that believers are gathered to Christ at His coming, which again, is when we will be given our new glorified bodies.

1 Corinthians 15:22-23 speaks of believers who are asleep, those who have already died and gone to heaven. God wants you to know that believers who die before Christ's coming will not be getting their new body until that time. And Christ's coming does not begin until sometime after the midpoint of Daniel's 70th week, and after the coming of the Antichrist. Daniel 9:27, Matthew 24:15, 29-31

1 Corinthians 15:51 talks about those believers who never physically die, who don't fall asleep, who are alive on earth at the coming of Christ. It says, *"we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed."* As 1 Cor. 15:22 told us, *"All will be made alive."* All believers

from all time, those living on earth at the end of this age, along with all those who have physically died and gone to heaven, will be glorified, will be made alive, will be changed at Christ's coming, which occurs just after the *"last trumpet."* 1 Corinthians 15:52

That there will be the sound of a trumpet before we are glorified is also stated in 1 Thess. 4:16 which calls it the *"trumpet of God"* and in Matt. 24:31 which says it is the *"great trumpet."* At that time Christ descends from heaven, and *"coming in clouds with great power and glory"*, He quickly glorifies the believers, lovingly and immediately gathering them to Himself *"from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven."* Mark 13:26-27

There's another point I want to mention as to when believers are glorified. 1 Thess. 4:15-16 states, *"we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will not precede those who have fallen asleep… the dead in Christ will rise first."* Do you see what will happen? The believers who have physically died, those *"who have fallen asleep"*, the *"dead in Christ",* will be glorified a split second before the believers who are still alive on earth at the end of this age, at Christ's coming. Then together they will all *"meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord."* 1 Thess. 4:17

3) 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 gives a short summary of what our new bodies will be like. a) Our earthly body is perishable, but it will be raised imperishable. It will never get tired or old, and will not be subject to disease, decay, or death. It is immortal and incorruptible, living on forever. b) Now you live in a dishonorable body, but you will receive a **glorious** body. Our present body is imperfect, unable to be all that God desires. In the future, you will have a glorified mind, soul, body, and personality, one that will be ideal, excellent, faultless, impeccable, beautiful, out-of-this-world, altogether perfect, and **always** pleasing to God. c) You live in a body that is weak in every way, but it will be raised in power. The strength of our present-day superheroes, Superman, Ironman, and Captain America, etc., is nothing compared to

the **power** and capabilities of your new body. Soon enough you will be able to do everything God wants you to do. d) Now you have a natural body, one able only to live on this earth, but in the near future, you will receive a body that is both **spiritual** and physical in nature, one perfectly suited to worship and serve God in heaven and on earth. The Lord Jesus Christ *"will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory."* Philippians 3:21

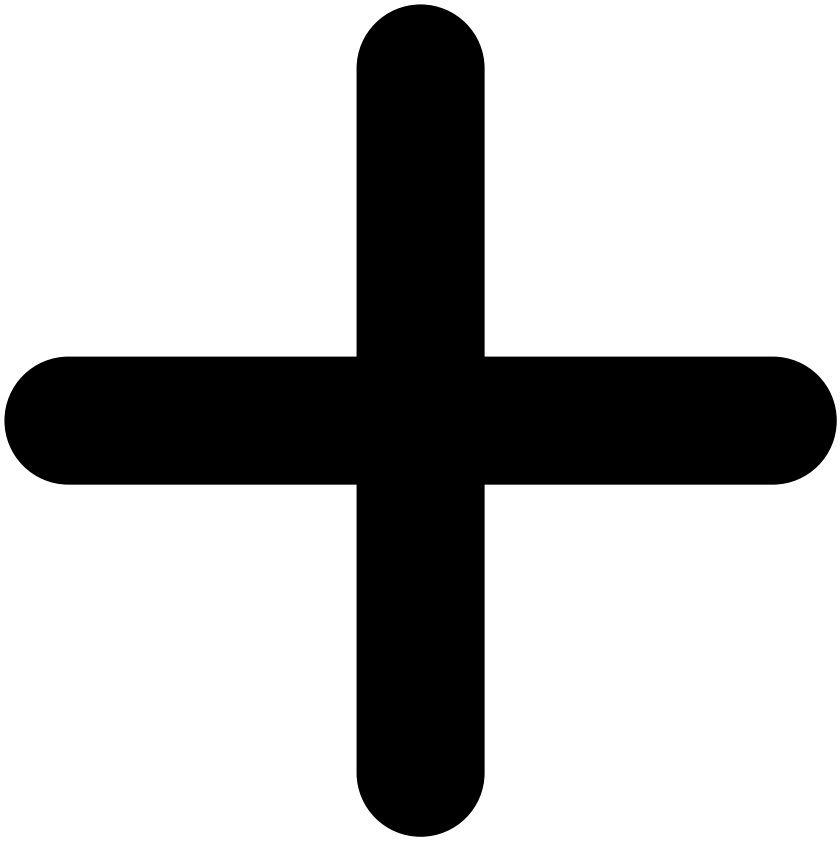
4) 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 speaks of the coming kingdom ages, and this helps us see why we need to be glorified. We know that all believers will be glorified, will be made alive at Christ's coming (1 Cor. 15:22-23). Then begins the millennial kingdom, which is when Jesus Christ reigns on earth and abolishes all rule and authority, and death too. Rev. 2:26-27, 5:10, 20:6 tells us that we will reign with Christ during this 1000-year period, assisting Him in His promised and glorious rule over the nations (Psalms 47, 67, 72). This is when our prayer, *"Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,"* will be answered. Having a brand-new body will enable us to fully experience eternal life and to perfectly live for Jesus Christ during the ages to come.

5) 1 Corinthians 15:3-5, 10, 31-34, 42-44, 57-58 instructs you how you are to live in the end-times, in these last years leading up to Christ's coming. You are to remember the truth of the gospel (3-5), live by God's grace (10), die daily (31), not live in a worldly way (32), not be deceived and associate with bad people (33), be sober minded and stop sinning (34), have hope by understanding the truth about your Christ-like body (42-44), be thankful for the amazing victory Christ has given you (57), and *"be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor in the Lord is not in vain"* (58).

The good news is that we will soon be in heaven with our Lord and all the believers and in a new glorified body. *"Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, Sing His mercy and His grace; In the mansions bright and blessed He'll prepare for us a place. When we all get to*

heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be! When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory." Eliza E. Hewitt, Emily Wilson

P.S. No believers are fully saved – that won't happen until Christ comes back and He gives us our new glorified bodies. This is something we should really be excited about. Here are two posts on this subject that I encourage you to read: *"The Best Is Yet to Come"*, and *"The Believer's Brand-New Body – Amen!"*



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