

1 Corinthians 15:35-58  
"It's Time to be Holy"

***"But if ye were Christians as ye profess to be, ye would believe that every mortal man who ever existed shall not only live by the immortality of his soul, but his body shall live again, that the very flesh in which he now walks the earth is as eternal as the soul, and shall exist for ever." (Charles Spurgeon)***

Introduction: ***Romans 8:18-25, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."***

Abraham believed in a physical resurrection:

Job believed in a physical resurrection:

David believed in a physical resurrection:

Daniel believed in a physical resurrection:

Isaiah prophesied about the physical resurrection:

Enoch and Elijah both went to heaven in their physical bodies:

***1 Corinthians 15:36, "You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies."***

1. Paul uses a common illustration from nature to point to the resurrection:

2. In faithfulness, God has seen to it that even nature:

***1 Corinthians 15:37, "And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain."***

1. Paul explains that when we sow a seed we are sowing a bare grain of the plant that it is to become:

2. Paul explains that without the seed:

**1 Corinthians 15:38, "But God gives it a body as He has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body."**

1. God produces a body according to the seed that was sown:

2. Everything that the plant is to be is:

**1 Corinthians 15:39-41, "For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. <sup>40</sup> There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. <sup>41</sup> There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory."**

1. Paul uses the example of the different kinds of flesh and heavenly bodies to show:

2. Paul lets us know that just as the sun and moon and stars are distinct from one another:

**1 Corinthians 15:42-44, "So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is 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..."**

1. Our earthly bodies are subject to disease and death and decay:

2. Our earthly bodies are still subject to the effects of sin:

3. Our earthly bodies are subject to the effects of aging and being weakened:

4. Our earthly bodies are only suitable for this life:

5. A spiritual body is not a disembodied spirit:

**1 Corinthians 15:45-49, "Thus it is written, 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall<sup>[1]</sup> also bear the image of the man of heaven."**

1. Paul is making reference to Adam and Jesus as:

2. All descendants of Adam have inherited his characteristics:

3. All who are in Christ have inherited His characteristics:

4. Adam was given life-giving breath:

5. Paul states a core truth about God's universe:

a. Adam came first as a natural man:

b. We are born first physically:

c. We have received our natural bodies:

***1 Corinthians 15:50-55, "I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. <sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:***

***'Death is swallowed up in victory.'***

***<sup>55</sup> 'O death, where is your victory?***

***O death, where is your sting?'***

1. Our present bodies are not capable of living in the kingdom of God because:

2. As an apostle, Paul has the authority to let us in on something that has been hidden for ages:

3. There will be those believers who will not have to experience death and there will be those believers who do have to experience death:

4. There is a trumpet sound coming like no other trumpet sound:

5. After we have all been changed:

***1 Corinthians 15:56-58, "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.***

***<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."***

1. For those who die in their sins:

2. For those who die in their sins:

3. But for those of us who have trusted Jesus:

4. Because of the certainty of the resurrection and the hope it brings us:

Conclusion: