

No "Body" Like You've Ever Known Before

A Celestial body from a dead "carcass?"

Is this unthinkable, 15:35-38?

The Greco-Roman mind had never conceived of existence forever in a body. They had only considered what the body did when it died.

They believed that it was metaphysically impossible for a terrestrial body to ascend to the celestial realm

This poses a problem for the incarnation as well.

For Paul (and Bible thinkers, the opposite is true).

Not for the creative power of God!

When you plant a seed, the seed doesn't get bigger, it grows into a plant.

How does the seed grow, God causes it, 15:36

Earthy bodies vary in "flesh" and "glory," 15:39-41

It shouldn't be too much of a leap to believe a resurrected body could be quite different than an earthly body

So it is with the resurrected body, 15:42-44a

Our earthly bodies are

Perishable—susceptible to corruption

Road kill: without preservation, they are gross

Dishonorable--subject to shame and humiliation

Strokes, lack of bladder control, loose hair, memory, unable to move

Weak--that which has deformities and wastes away

They grow old, are subject to aging process

Natural--of this earthly nature and subject to the normal processes

Our heavenly bodies are

Not a spruced up version of our physical bodies

They are

Imperishable--not susceptible to corruption, suited for eternal use

Glorious--not subject to shame and humiliation

Powerful--not subject to wasting away

Spiritual--not subject to the normal processes of earthly nature

The Resurrected Body will be like Christ's, 15:44b-49

If we are "in Adam," we will have bodies like his...

In Adam, all die

If we are "in Christ," we will have bodies like his someday

How will these things take place, 15:50-58

Paul restates all he has said in a sentence, 15:50

Not all saints will die, 15:51b

“the dead in Christ will rise first, After that, we who are still alive and left will be caught up,” 1 Thess 4:16c-17a

What about the dead who have gone on before?

2 Cor 5:8

Spirit? Or Temporary Body?

At any rate, a place of happy blessedness with Jesus Christ

All will be changed, 15:51c-53

How quickly will this take place?

15:52

When?

At the last trumpet, cf. 1 Thess 4:16d

What will characterize these changed bodies?

Dead bodies raised imperishable-- not susceptible to corruption, suited for eternal use

Dead bodies will be raised immortality--not able to die again

Will we be able to recognize our departed loved ones?

Yes, disciples recognized resurrected Jesus

They will look similar, but in fact, be quite different.

These events will mark for the believer the death of death, 15:54-56

These events will mark the victory of victory, because of the victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ, 15:57.

What are the logical consequences of this grand truth?

Firmness and stability in the face of difficulty, 15:58a.

Don't waver in your work for the LORD. They faced different kinds of difficulty than we do.

Consistent energetic engagement in the Lord's work, 15:58b.

I'm discouraged; things are bad in the economy.

I'm discouraged, things are bad in my family

I'm discouraged, some of my friends have left CBC