



**"NOW CONCERNING"—**

*Reply To Their Letter –  
Liberty In Christ – 7:1-16:4*

**“A Glorious Body –  
Our Final Victory”**

*1 Corinthians 15:35-58*



*"A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory" - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# **"A GLORIOUS BODY – OUR FINAL VICTORY"**

## **I CORINTHIANS 15:35-58**

### **ANSWERING QUESTIONS**

- ◆ First question pertained to marriage – (Chapter 7)
- ◆ The second question dealt with eating meat offered to idols – (Chapters 8-10)
- ◆ Chapters 11:2-16:4 deal with a variety of topics, (headship, the Lord's Supper & miraculous spiritual gifts –
- ◆ The resurrection – (15:1-58)



*"A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory" - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# **"A GLORIOUS BODY – OUR FINAL VICTORY"**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-58**

### **THE PROBLEM AT CORINTH**

- ◆ They had accepted a gospel message that taught the resurrection of Christ. (15:1-4)
- ◆ What some of them were denying was the bodily resurrection of believers. (15:12-13)
- ◆ But Paul points out that such a position is contradictory. (15:12-19)
- ◆ There existed a group of Christians at Corinth, who were enthralled with the "wisdom of this world" (Chapters 1-3)





*“A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory” - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# **“A GLORIOUS BODY – OUR FINAL VICTORY”**

## **I CORINTHIANS 15:35-58**

### **THE PROBLEM AT CORINTH**

“In the eyes of the Greeks the body was the prison-house of the soul, and death was a release of the soul from its captivity. The resurrection of the body, therefore, was regarded by them as a calamity rather than as a blessing, and so contrary to all sound philosophy as to excite ridicule. (Acts 17:32)” - McGarvey - (p. 145)





# WITH WHAT BODY DO THEY COME?

## **1 Corinthians 15:35-49 (NKJV)**

<sup>35</sup> But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?" <sup>36</sup> Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies. <sup>37</sup> And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain--perhaps wheat or some other *grain*. <sup>38</sup> But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

*“A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory” - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# WITH WHAT BODY DO THEY COME?

## **1 Corinthians 15:35-49 (NKJV)**

<sup>39</sup> All flesh *is* not the same flesh, but *there is* one *kind of* flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, *and* another of birds. <sup>40</sup> *There are* also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial *is* one, and the *glory* of the terrestrial *is* another. <sup>41</sup> *There is* one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for *one* star differs from *another* star in glory.



# WITH WHAT BODY DO THEY COME?

## **1 Corinthians 15:35-49 (NKJV)**

<sup>42</sup> So also is the resurrection of the dead. *The body* is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. <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. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> And so it is written, "*The first man Adam became a living being.*" The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit.

# WITH WHAT BODY DO THEY COME?

## **1 Corinthians 15:35-49 (NKJV)**

<sup>46</sup> However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man *was* of the earth, *made* of dust; the second Man *is* the Lord from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As *was* the man of dust, so also *are* those *who are made* of dust; and as *is* the heavenly Man, so also *are* those *who are* heavenly. <sup>49</sup> And as we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)

## ANSWERING OBJECTIONS



**1 Corinthians 15:35  
(NKJV)**

**<sup>35</sup> But someone  
will say, "How are  
the dead raised  
up? And with  
what body do they  
come?"**

- ◆ **"How are the dead raised up?"** – this question seems to be more from the perspective of the skeptic – instead of from the perspective of inquiring about the mechanics of the doctrine of the resurrection –
- ◆ **How is this possible?** – This makes no sense? – Goes against all reason! - . . .

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)

(McGUIGGAN P. 200)



**1 Corinthians 15:35  
(NKJV)**

**<sup>35</sup> But someone  
will say, "How are  
the dead raised  
up? And with  
what body do they  
come?"**

'and with what manner of body do they come?' - Apparently some in Corinth could only see man having one type of body, i.e. a physical body. Some thought the doctrine of the resurrection was ridiculous, because they imagined that such a doctrine taught that decayed corpses would come forth from the grave (i.e. kind of a religious "night of the living dead") 'The body falls apart, it decomposes. Can you see that coming out of the tomb?



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:35  
(NKJV)**

**<sup>35</sup> But someone  
will say, "How are  
the dead raised  
up? And with  
what body do they  
come?"**

## WE STILL FACE SUCH QUESTIONS

- ◆ How is God going to resurrect someone that has been eaten by wild animals, blown to bits, cremated, buried at sea, etc. . . .
- ◆ **"Thou foolish one"** - 'The implication is not simply that such questions suggest one to have taken leave of his senses, but that one stands as the "fool" in the OT sense--as the person who has failed to take God into account.' (Fee p. 780)

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:35  
(NKJV)**

**35 But someone  
will say, "How are  
the dead raised  
up? And with  
what body do they  
come?"**

## WE STILL FACE SUCH QUESTIONS

- ◆ What would God call someone that expressed disbelief in:
  - ❖ *That God created the Universe in six days?*
  - ❖ *That the flood of Noah couldn't have been universal?*
  - ❖ *That Jonah couldn't have been swallowed and or survived in the belly of the sea monster?*
  - ❖ *The virgin birth of Christ,*



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:36**  
**(NKJV)**

**<sup>36</sup> Foolish one,  
what you sow is  
not made alive  
unless it dies.**

◆ **Verse 36** - The answer to their question could be answered by an illustration from agriculture.

'Paul calls the man who thus puzzles himself a foolish one, because he denies that the all-powerful God can do with a human body that which he himself practically does annually with the bodies (grains) of wheat, etc., by merely availing himself of the common course of nature.'

(Mcgarvey p. 155)

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:37  
(NKJV)**

**37 And what you  
sow, you do not  
sow that body that  
shall be, but mere  
grain--perhaps  
wheat or some  
other grain.**

- ★ **Verse 37** - When you sow something, it changes in some way.
- ❖ *Just because they planted a seed into the ground, didn't demand that the plant which sprang up had to look exactly like the seed planted.*
- ❖ *They didn't believe that decomposed seeds sprang up from buried seeds.*
- ❖ *Every year they witnessed that beautiful plants had sprung up from decomposed and buried seeds.*



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:38  
(NKJV)**

**38 But God gives it  
a body as He  
pleases, and to  
each seed its own  
body.**

- ◆ **Verse 38** – Our current body is as a seed sown in the ground.
- ❖ *God is the one Who raises the dead – if He can create the entire universe with a word – certainly He can raise the dead and equip the resurrected body to meet His desire!*
- ❖ *God has His order of things – in the realm of agriculture it is consistent with His order – We will be have a body suited to our needs according to His designed order.*

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:39  
(NKJV)**

***39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.***

- ◆ **Verse 39 – 'All flesh is not the same flesh'.**
- ❖ *God has designed "bodies" to live in water, to fly, to survive in environments with little water, with extreme heat and with extreme cold.*
- ❖ *He is not limited to just one kind of "flesh" in the physical realm. Therefore, how then can we limit Him in the spiritual realm?*



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:40  
(NKJV)**

***40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.***

## ◆ Verse 39 – Another illustration

- ❖ *The "celestial bodies" apparently are those mentioned in the next verse, i.e. the sun, moon and the stars each having it's own glory.*
- ❖ *The "terrestrial" bodies are any bodies found upon the earth, including man and the animals, those bodies mentioned in the previous verses.*

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:41  
(NKJV)**

***41 There is one glory  
of the sun, another  
glory of the moon,  
and another glory  
of the stars; for one  
star differs from  
another star in  
glory.***

- ✦ **Verse 42** - So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.
- ✦ **Verse 43** - It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.
- ✦ **Verse 44** - It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.



*“A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory” - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)

**Psalm 71:20 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> You, who have shown me great and severe troubles, Shall revive me again, And bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

**Philippians 3:20-21 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:45  
(NKJV)**

***45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.***

- ◆ **Adam and Christ are both universal examples – cf. verse 21 - Both the just and the unjust will be resurrected – John 5:28,29; 2 Cor 5:10; Rev 20:11-15**
- ◆ **'We receive a ("living-soul") body fitted for life in this world from Adam; we receive a ("life-giving spirit" ( a body fitted for life in the world to come) from Christ.'**  
**(Willis p. 579) (1 Cor. 15:22)**



# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:46  
(NKJV)**

**46 However, the  
spiritual is not first,  
but the natural, and  
afterward the  
spiritual.**

- ◆ **Verse 47** - The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.
- ◆ **Verse 48** - As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly.
- ◆ **Verse 49** - And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.

# THE RESURRECTION BODY? (35-49)



**1 Corinthians 15:46  
(NKJV)**

**4<sup>6</sup> However, the  
spiritual is not first,  
but the natural, and  
afterward the  
spiritual.**

- ◆ **'Borne the image of the earthy'**- Adam exemplified the earthly (v. 40) natural body (the word trans. being, v. 45, psychē, is related to psychikos, which is trans. natural in v. 44). — [BKC] - i.e. we are equipped for this earthly life and die.
- ◆ **"We shall also bear the image of the heavenly"**-i.e. we shall be resurrected in a body "like" the one that Christ possesses, free from decay, dishonor and mortality. - (Phil. 3:21; 1 John 3:1-2)



# WHAT ABOUT THE LIVING WHEN CHRIST COMES?? (50-53)



**1 Corinthians 15:50  
(NKJV)**

**50 Now this I say,  
brethren, that flesh  
and blood cannot  
inherit the kingdom  
of God; nor does  
corruption inherit  
incorruption.**

- ◆ **'Now this I say, brethren'-a transition in thought.**
- ◆ **Paul now considers another possible objection to the resurrection,**
  - ❖ *'What will happen to those who are alive when Christ comes?'*
  - ❖ *'How can they be resurrected, seeing that they aren't dead yet?'*

# WHAT ABOUT THE LIVING WHEN CHRIST COMES?? (50-53)



**1 Corinthians 15:50  
(NKJV)**

**50 Now this I say,  
brethren, that flesh  
and blood cannot  
inherit the kingdom  
of God; nor does  
corruption inherit  
incorruption.**

- ◆ 'Our earthly (natural) bodies are not suited for eternal life.' (Willis p. 584)
- ◆ 'Mean this mortal body, and may denote the living rather than the dead.' (F.F. Bruce p. 153)
- ◆ All will be given a body equipped for eternity – both the lost and the saved!
- ◆ One inherits the heavenly eternal kingdom through regeneration – NOT generation!!



# WHAT ABOUT THE LIVING WHEN CHRIST COMES?? (50-53)

## **1 Corinthians 15:50-53 (NKJV)**

<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 incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

# OUR VICTORY IN CHRIST!! (54-58)

## **1 Corinthians 15:54-58 (NKJV)**

<sup>54</sup> So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "*Death is swallowed up in victory.*" <sup>55</sup> "*O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?*"



*“A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory” - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# OUR VICTORY IN CHRIST!! (54-58)

**1 Corinthians 15:54-58 (NKJV)**

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death *is* sin, and  
the strength of sin *is* the law. <sup>57</sup>  
But thanks *be* to God, who gives  
us the victory through our Lord  
Jesus Christ.

*"A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory" - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# OUR VICTORY IN CHRIST!! (54-58)

**1 Corinthians 15:54-58 (NKJV)**

5<sup>8</sup> Therefore, my beloved  
brethren, be steadfast,  
immovable, always abounding in  
the work of the Lord, knowing  
that your labor is not in vain in  
the Lord.



*"A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory" - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# **"THE RISEN CHRIST – OUR HOPE"**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-58**



- ✦ The death, burial and resurrection of Christ are the foundational FACTS of our hope!
- ✦ We will all be raised and stand before the Lord to be judged! (2 Cor. 5:10)
- ✦ Have you believed the gospel?
- ✦ Have you been baptized that you may live with Christ?
- ✦ Are you living a holy life in view of the resurrection and judgment?





*"A Glorious Body – Our Final Victory" - 1 Corinthians 15:35-58*

# **"A GLORIOUS BODY – OUR FINAL VICTORY"** **- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-58**

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Prepared October 9, 2011

Preached October 9, 2011

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