

Session 7: Our Resurrection Bodies

General Review

Heaven is the _____ place of God. The _____ heaven is wonderful, though not the believer's ultimate hope. God's eternal plan is to fully _____ earth, not abandon it. The most satisfying aspect of heaven will be seeing the face of _____. Life with God in heaven will NOT be _____: we will walk with him, learn from him, feast with him, and worship him in all things with perfect joy and satisfaction.

Revisiting those Rewards...

It is worth revisiting this important, practical, and understudied topic! Getting a handle on Jesus' teaching of Kingdom rewards helps us connect the doctrine of heaven to our daily lives, spurs us to joyful obedience, and fills our earthly assignments with meaning.

The ultimate "Heaven" we look forward to is God's _____ on the new earth (Dan 7:13–14, etc.). In this Kingdom, believers will _____ with Jesus (2 Tim 2:12, etc.). We all gain access to this Kingdom by God's _____ alone, but King Jesus will assign us different _____ and responsibilities based on our faithfulness to him in this life (Matt 25:14–30, etc.). This evaluation takes place at the "judgment according to _____," after the resurrection (2 Cor 5:10, etc.). Jesus wants these rewards to _____ faithful, obedient lives of service for him now (Matt 6:19–20, etc.).

How does this teaching about how you have thought about heaven's "rewards" in the past? What impact should it have on how you approach your Christian life right now?

And now for *another* under-developed Christian doctrine...

Of all the "heaven" songs you know, how many are about the resurrection of the body?

Our underdeveloped doctrine of the resurrection body is most evident at _____.

For NT believers, the promise of resurrection is a central hope! We're missing out!

The Old Testament Hope

As we have already seen, Genesis 1–2 provides God's blueprint for human life. This includes embodied men and women, who reflect his image, living in and ruling a material world for his glory. God declares every part of this to be "_____." What are some of the ways that sin affected God's blueprint—physical and spiritual?

We've been learning that God intends to restore every aspect of his very good world, including our human bodies. What do we learn about this hope from these passages?

Job 19:23-27; Psalm 16:9-11; Psalm 49:15; Isaiah 25:6–9; Daniel 12:2-3; John 5:29
John 11:23-24; Matthew 21:23-33

Based on these verses, what did God's OT people expect to happen to their bodies?

Jesus' Resurrection Body

God's OT people expected God to raise their bodies at the _____ of history. They did NOT expect God to raise _____ person in the _____ of history!

As we read the gospels, we find that Jesus comes not only to provide forgiveness of our sin and a "spiritual" salvation: he is on a mission to _____ the curse of death! Can you think of any examples of this?

After bearing our sin and death on the cross, Jesus doesn't just "go to heaven" in spirit. He is raised bodily from the dead, _____ sin's curse! Let's take just one of the Easter appearances and make observations about his' resurrection body. Read Luke 24:28-48.

What does Jesus' bodily resurrection mean for us?

Jesus is called "the _____ Adam" or the "_____ Adam (Rom 5:12-21; 1 Cor 15:20-28)." Why is this a fitting name for Jesus?

Jesus is called "the _____-fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor 15:20), "the _____ from the dead" (Col 1:18), and the "forerunner" of our salvation (Heb 2:10). What do these say about the connection between Jesus' resurrection and ours?

Jesus' resurrection body is the _____ of our future bodies (Phil 3:19-21)!

Jesus' resurrection means that we will be _____ with our loved ones in Christ, and we will always be with the Lord (1 Thes 4:13-18).

Jesus' bodily resurrection means that we do not have to _____ death (Rev 1:17-18)!

Our ultimate hope is to be resurrected _____, living with a resurrected _____, on a resurrected _____.

Application

Take a few minutes to think through the implications of our future resurrection bodies. How should this biblical teaching impact the way you think about...

...what you do with your body

...aging

...funeral services, burials, and cemeteries

...what heaven will be like?