



Sermon Series: Resurrection: The Future of Every Follower of Jesus, Part 4

Sermon Title: The New You

Speaker/ Date: Armin Sommer, June 27, 2021

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Resurrection power will transform, not just the dead, but also the living.

Big Idea: If you're alive when Jesus returns, you will experience instant transformation.

3 questions arise from 1 Cor 15:50-58

Question 1: Who Does Paul Describe Here?

1 Corinthians 15:50

“Flesh and blood” is just another way to talk about the power source of your future body. Your mortal body is powered by your soul. But your resurrection body will have a spiritual power source.

He is not predicting any loss of physicality. You'll have a body equipped for life on the New Earth. **Philippians 3: 21**

Death will forever be defeated. **1 Corinthians 15:26**

Question 2: What will change?

1 Corinthians 15:51 (NIV) — Listen, I tell you a mystery

A. The Mystery Unfolds

This refers to a secret, once hidden, that Paul discloses.

B. It is Instantaneous

1 Corinthians 15:52 (NIV) — 52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye...

1 Corinthians 15:52 (NIV) – For the trumpet will sound

It will take place when a signal is given... “the trumpet.” And that's not all. There will also be a shout. **1 Thessalonians 4:16–17**

C. It's an exchange

It's the putting off of one thing and the putting on of another. **1 Corinthians 15:52**

You will possess a body with superhuman capabilities. **1 Corinthians 15:53,54**

D. Death Swallowed up

1 Corinthians 15:54 (NIV) — 54 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

The word rendered “Swallow” means “to destroy completely.” Similar to what Paul writes in **2 Corinthians 5:4**

The exchange will be so sudden, so thorough, that you would never want to go back to your current existence.

E. It Makes You Want to Sing

1 Corinthians 15:55 (NIV) — “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

This is what Bible scholars refer to as a “taunt song.” A song that mocks death. His song is the fulfillment of 2 great prophecies. **Isaiah 25:8, Hosea 13:14**

Paul mocks the power that has become powerless. Your destiny is not to abandon a physical body, but to gain a body that will never experience the humiliation of deterioration or death.

When Jesus returns, if you are still alive, you will be transformed. You will be, in many respects, like Jesus. **1 John 3:2–3**

Question 3: What Difference Does It Make Today?

Paul wants the expectation of your transformation to energize you for the mission Christ has given us. WE are to be steadfast - “to stand solidly and firmly in place.” We stand firmly against the cultural tide that seeks to subvert and steal our affections. **1 Corinthians 15:58**

We’re not out for ourselves; rather, we see ourselves as part of a local expression of the Body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:27**

God has sovereignly gifted you for the strengthening and building up of the Body. Every time you serve the Lord in ministry. Every time you show up and gather, you bear witness. Every time you give testimony to salvation in Christ. Every time you reach out to the someone far from God, you stand fast. It’s not meaningless. It’s not empty.

Discussion Questions:

- What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?
- What are some ways that you stand firmly against the cultural tide that seeks to subvert and steal our affections?
- How has God sovereignly gifted you for the strengthening and building up of the Body? In what ways do you currently use those gifts? Is there anything that holds you back?
- Have you ever experienced victory over something and created the equivalent of your own mock song? If so, what were the thoughts and emotions that it involved?
- What excites you most about hearing the trumpet sound? Why?

BIBLE VERSES

1 Corinthians 15:50–58 (NIV) ⁵⁰ I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” ⁵⁵ “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Philippians 3: 21 (NIV) [The Lord Jesus Christ] ... will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

1 Corinthians 15:26 (NIV) The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (NIV) ¹⁶ The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.
2 Corinthians 5:4 (NIV) ...so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

Isaiah 25:8 (NIV) ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.

Hosea 13:14 (NIV) ¹⁴ "I will deliver this people from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction? "I will have no compassion,

1 John 3:2–3 (NIV) ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV) Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.