Session 9 The Beauty of God in Our Resurrected Body

I. THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S HUMILITY

A. The beauty that Jesus possesses is the very beauty that He imparts to His people. It starts in this age and comes to fullness in the age to come, especially in our resurrected bodies.

¹The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me...³to give them beauty for ashes. (Isa. 61:1-3)

¹⁷Let the <u>beauty of the LORD</u>...be <u>upon us</u>, and establish the work of our hands... (Ps. 90:17)

⁴For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will <u>beautify the humble</u> with salvation. (Ps. 149:4)

B. The good news of gospel is that Jesus died and rose; thus, all who believe in Him will be raised. Jesus' resurrection made a way for us to be with Him and enjoy Him and His beauty forever.

³For I delivered to you <u>first of all</u> that...Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that He was buried, and that <u>He rose again</u> the third day according to the Scriptures... (1 Cor. 15:3-4)

C. *Firstfruits*: Jesus was the first man to conquer all the enemies of the human race—including death. Jesus is the prototype, the first member of a new order of people who triumph over death. He is the *pledge*, or *guarantee*, that His people will receive a resurrected body like His.

²⁰Christ is risen...and has become the <u>firstfruits</u> of those who have fallen asleep [died]... (1 Cor. 15:20)

D. At the rapture, all of God's family will be resurrected to be *with Him forever*.

¹⁶The Lord Himself will descend from heaven <u>with a shout</u>...And the <u>dead in Christ will rise</u> <u>first</u>. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be <u>caught up together</u> with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be <u>with the Lord</u>. (1 Thes. 4:16-17)

E. Our grace-inspired choices for love and godly character are aspects of His beauty imparted in us. God sees humility as incorruptible beauty, that is, beauty which will never diminish.

⁴...let it be the <u>hidden</u> person of the heart, with the <u>incorruptible beauty</u> of a gentle [humble] and quiet spirit, which is <u>very precious</u> in the sight of God. (1 Pet. 3:4)

F. God will give us a resurrected body that will be conformed to Jesus' own resurrected body. The Father "custom designed" Jesus' body, giving Him the best design possible. We will be like Him in spirit, soul, body, mind, emotions, and in the dwelling in which we live.

²¹...will <u>transform</u> our lowly body that it may be <u>conformed to His glorious body</u>... (Phil. 3:21)

²...<u>we shall be like Him</u>...³Everyone who has <u>this hope</u> in Him purifies himself... (1 Jn. 3:2-3)

G. Jesus' resurrected body radiates glorious light that is brighter than the sun (Isa. 24:23; Hab. 3:4; Jn. 8:12; Acts 26:13-14; Heb. 1:3; Rev. 1:16; 21:24; 22:3-5).

¹⁶...and His countenance was like the <u>sun shining in its strength</u>. (Rev. 1:16)

²*He was transfigured before them.* <u>*His face shone like the sun... (Mt. 17:2)*</u>

H. The Lord clothes Himself with majesty—covering Himself with garments of radiant light (Ps. 104:1-2).

²...You are <u>clothed with honor and majesty</u>, ²Who cover Yourself with <u>light as with a</u> <u>garment</u>... (Ps. 104:1-2)

I. The saints are beautified with God's light and glory (Dan. 12:3; Mt. 13:43).

³The...wise shall <u>shine like the brightness</u> of the firmament...<u>like stars</u> forever. (Dan. 12:3)

⁴³The righteous will <u>shine forth as the sun</u> in the kingdom of their Father. (Mt. 13:43)

- J. The resurrection speaks of transforming the same body that died, not creating a completely new body. There is continuity between one's physical body that dies and their resurrected body which includes each one's unique personality, genetics, and appearance brought to perfection.
- K. Paul highlighted five qualities of our resurrected body that will affect all of our abilities.

⁴²The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in <u>incorruption</u>. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in <u>glory</u>. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in <u>power</u>. ⁴⁴It is sown a natural body, it is raised a <u>spiritual body</u>...⁵³For...this mortal must put on <u>immortality</u>. (1 Cor. 15:42-53)

- 1. Corruption, but raised in incorruption: Vitality and strength replace sickness and decay.
- 2. Dishonor, but raised in glory: Purity and honor replace failure, shame, and dishonor.
- 3. Weakness, but raised in power: Safety and prosperity replace injustice, vulnerability, and pain.
- 4. Natural body, but raised a spiritual body: Supernatural capacities replace natural ones.
- 5. Mortality puts on immortality: Unending life and love replace physical death and loss.
- L. One overall truth that affects all the activities in our resurrected bodies is the removal of sadness.

⁴God will wipe away every <u>tear from their eyes; there shall be no more <u>death</u>, nor <u>sorrow</u>, nor <u>crying</u>. There shall be no more <u>pain</u>... (Rev. 21:4)</u>

M. We will live in a material, resurrected body on a material earth with the supernatural abilities of the resurrection. We will eat real food and drink real drink. We will not have all knowledge, but will learn little by little. We will work with a deep sense of purpose in partnership with God. We will meet new people, grow in relationship with them, and introduce them to others.

II. THE GLORY IN JESUS' RESURRECTED BODY

A. Jesus could veil His glory fully or partially or unveil it to show His terrifying glory (Rev. 1:17; Lk. 24:37). At times, Jesus was not recognized as He veiled His resurrection glory, and He could suddenly appear or vanish from sight (Lk. 24:16, 31; Jn. 20:14-15; 21:4).

¹⁵While they conversed...Jesus Himself drew near and went with them [to Emmaus]. ¹⁶Their eyes were <u>restrained</u>, so that they <u>did not know Him</u>...³¹Their eyes were opened and they knew Him; He <u>vanished</u>...³³They...returned to Jerusalem...³⁵They told about the things that had happened...³⁶As they said these things, <u>Jesus stood in the midst</u> of them... (Lk. 24:15-36)

B. Jesus' resurrected body has "supernatural flesh" with bones and has the capacity to eat food.

³⁸He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Behold My hands and My feet, that <u>it is I</u> Myself. <u>Handle Me</u> and see, for a spirit does not have <u>flesh</u> <u>and bones</u> as you see I have..."⁴¹He said to them, "Have you any <u>food</u> here?" ⁴²So they gave Him a piece of a broiled <u>fish</u>...⁴³He took it and <u>ate</u> in their presence. (Lk. 24:38-43)

⁴⁰Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly ⁴¹...to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who <u>ate and drank</u> with Him after He arose from the dead." (Acts 10:40-41)

C. We will take pleasure in the positive side of hunger and thirst without the pain of lack. Believers will have the pleasure of eating and drinking with Jesus in the New Jerusalem.

¹⁵"I have desired to <u>eat this Passover</u> with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I say to you, I will no longer <u>eat</u> of it <u>until</u> it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God...¹⁸I will not <u>drink</u> of the fruit of the vine <u>until</u> the kingdom of God comes...²⁹I bestow upon you a kingdom...³⁰that you may <u>eat</u> <u>and drink</u> at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging...Israel." (Lk. 22:15-30)

D. John added details to the events occurring in Luke 24. Jesus walked through the wall to enter a room when the doors were shut (Jn. 20:19, 26). He showed them the scars in His hands, feet, and side (Jn. 20:27). During His third appearance, He prepared a fire and cooked fish (Jn. 21:9-14).

¹⁹When the <u>doors were shut</u> where the disciples were assembled...Jesus came and <u>stood in the</u> <u>midst</u>, and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰...<u>He showed them His hands and His side</u>... (Jn. 20:19-20)

²⁴Thomas...was <u>not</u> with them when Jesus came. ²⁵...He said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." ²⁶ After <u>eight days</u> His disciples were again inside...Jesus came, the <u>doors being shut</u>, and <u>stood in the midst</u>...²⁷ He said to Thomas, "...<u>reach your hand here</u>, and put it into My side." (Jn. 20:24-27)

E. Jesus appeared to His disciples to teach them for forty days and then traveled on a cloud.

³He presented Himself alive after His suffering...being <u>seen by them during forty days</u> and <u>speaking</u> of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God...⁹ While they watched, <u>He was taken</u> <u>up</u>, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. (Acts 1:3, 9)

F.

- Our five senses will be enhanced by the supernatural power of the Spirit in our:
 - 1. Sight: seeing clearly at a distance or at close range
 - 2. *Hearing*: at distances and with great perception and perfect balance, etc.
 - 3. Taste: enjoyment of food and water to the fullest degree (1 Cor. 10:31; Rev. 22:1-2)
 - 4. Touch: to have glorified physical senses to feel the glory of God
 - 5. Smell: to enjoy and stir remembrance of important moments of our lives
- G. We will possess supernatural abilities:
 - 1. To think: to learn, grow in understanding, and to remember
 - 2. In health: There will be no fatigue or lack of energy, nor sickness nor death.
 - 3. In strength: expressed in our speed, endurance, and strength in lifting objects
 - 4. In the material realm: modes of travel and passing through walls like Jesus did?
 - 5. *To communicate*: to speak, sing, and play musical instruments, etc. Our communication skills will be deep and clear without mistakes, as we will fully comprehend another's intent.
- H. Our history with people will be cherished (2 Cor. 4:14; 1 Thes. 2:19; cf. Phil. 2:16; Lk. 16:9).

¹⁹What is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not <u>even you</u> in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ <u>at His coming</u>? (1 Thes. 2:19)

¹⁴knowing that He...will also raise us up with Jesus, and <u>will present us with you</u>. (2 Cor. 4:14)

I. Each believer will receive a different measure of glory in their resurrected body. There will be a vast range of degrees of glory including those who are called the least and greatest (Mt. 5:19).

⁴¹For one star <u>differs</u> from another star in glory. ⁴²<u>So also</u> is the <u>resurrection</u> of the dead. (1 Cor. 15:41-42)

- J. A core part of the identity of a believer is in being an "heir" or "son of the resurrection."
 ³⁶...they are like angels, and are sons of God, <u>being sons of the resurrection</u>. (Lk 20:36)
- K. The Bible gives us only seeds of truth about the nature of our resurrected bodies, but they are enough to anchor our soul.

¹⁹This hope we have as an <u>anchor</u> of the soul... (Heb. 6:19)

L. Our response to the beauty and glory of the resurrection is to live steadfast and immovable.

⁵⁸Therefore...be <u>steadfast</u>, <u>immovable</u>, always abounding in the <u>work</u> of the Lord, knowing that your labor is <u>not in vain</u> in the Lord. (1 Cor. 15:58)