

:: Summary

The resurrection of Jesus was physical in nature ("a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have" Luke 24:39). In the beginning, everything God made was "very good" (Genesis 1:31) and Jesus' eternal possession of a resurrection body is a powerful affirmation of the goodness of creation and God's intention to restore it to its original splendor. Believers therefore look forward to resurrection life in glorified bodies.

:: Share

God's design of the human body is utterly astounding. What is one part of the human body that amazes you?

:: Explore and Discuss | Acts 2:32, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

Read Acts 2:22-36 as the first sermon delivered at the birth of the Church. Identify the core truths of the Gospel contained in Peter's Pentecost message.

In 1 Corinthians 15:17-19 Paul writes that if Christ has not been raised, our faith is futile; those who have already died in Christ are lost, and *"if only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."* What does Paul mean and why is this true?

Pick one of the four affirmations about resurrection bodies in 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 and describe what you imagine it will be like based upon Paul's teaching.

In the message Pastor Mike said, "If you don't hold out hope or conviction that resurrection is possible, then here is what you have to look forward to: more trouble and hardship in this world, a body that grows continually weaker, slowly decays and stops working, and then, lights out, the party's over. Not sleep, but utter separation and darkness, death everlasting." What are the implications of this reality for those who do not believe? For believers?

:: Apply it to Your Life

How do you deal with the reality that in this life, your body is subject to weakness and decay?

What are some of the freedoms we will experience in our perfected resurrection bodies?

Glorification is the final step of redemption in which our sanctified souls are united with perfect resurrection bodies like Jesus's. How does the doctrine of glorification strengthen and encourage you in the midst of this pandemic?

:: Pray

Give God praise and thanksgiving for the promise that one day you will be an "everlasting splendor."

Pray for people you know to come to faith and everlasting life in Jesus.

