

A Body Everlasting

### **Pastor Steve Martin**

*"I believe in Christianity as I believe the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else."* - CS Lewis

Our future resurrection is the window through which we must view all our life.

**2 Corinthians 4:14 (NASB)** - knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you.

Jesus' resurrection guarantees ours.

**Colossians 1:18** - He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

Jesus is the head of a new race of "God-people"

**Romans 8:11** - But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

His resurrection promises us all the grace we need between His resurrection and ours.

Our future grace carries with it the promise of present grace.

**Philippians 3:20-21** - For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Maranatha! - Come Lord Jesus!

**1 John 3:2-3** - Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

We become what we behold.

**1 Corinthians 15:42-44** - So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

### **5 perceptible changes to our bodies in glory.**

- Our body is sown in corruption but will be raised in incorruption.
- Our body is sown in dishonor but will be raised in glory.
- Our body is sown in weakness but will be raised in power.
- Our body is sown a natural body but will be raised a spiritual body.
- Our body is sown mortal but will be raised a immortal.

Just because you believe in the resurrection, does not mean that you qualify for it.

**1 Corinthians 15:23 (NIV)** - But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

Only total commitment to Jesus qualifies you for the first resurrection. There are two resurrections mentioned in the Bible.

**Daniel 12:2** - Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

### **Life Application**

- How does the resurrection change how you view your life?
- On a scale of 1-10, how eager are you for Jesus' return?
- What makes you certain that you qualify for the first resurrection?