

## **Because Jesus Lives** **Transformed Future – Victorious**

1 Corinthians 15:50-57

This Easter message is a part of a 5-message series from 1 Corinthians 15 talking about the incredible blessings of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We've seen that Jesus' resurrection has provided us a Transformed Message, Transformed Identity, Transformed Body, and today we will see that the resurrection of Jesus will provide for us a Transformed future! Which, requires us to wait...

The good news for those who don't like to wait is that because Jesus lives, your is made alive instantly as you place your trust in Jesus.

*“Even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” Ephesians 2:5-6*

As we said on Good Friday, unlike our soul, our bodies will die. But, we will be resurrected just as Jesus was resurrected as we are in him. And it won't be like losing weight a little at a time (even a shorter time with Ozempic), it will be instant. Our victory over death, at God's appointed time, will be like a flash! Count on it!

**Main Idea:** Because Jesus Lives, Our Future Victory is Assured

*“I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. 54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’ 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:50-57*

### **I. Because Jesus Lives, We have Victory in the Mystery – 1 Corinthians 15:50-52**

*“Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.” 1 Corinthians 15:51-52*

*“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:16-18*

The mystery is real, just like our fears, but we have the assurance of Jesus' resurrection and the instructions of God's word telling us of our future resurrection so we can walk by FAITH and not by SIGHT. And if the mysteries surrounding this reality are causing you anxiety and confusion, just know that a lack of clarity is always an invitation to deeper intimacy with the Father. You can trust him!

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### **II. Because Jesus Lives, We have Victory with Absolute Certainty – 1 Corinthians 15:53-57**

Consider the ways that Paul describes our current reality in this section of his letter (*perishable - spoiling/corrupting...mortal - subject to death/will die*). As I said on Good Friday, we are born dying. It shows in us and around us. Beloved, life can be very hard sometimes. (i.e., health issues for us and the people we love, financial challenges with no end in sight, increasingly polarized culture, relational stress, wars around the world, eroding trust in societal institutions, uncertain future based on artificial intelligence, and so much more). There is so much uncertain, but we know...

*“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:57*

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7*

This series is all about the benefits & blessings of the resurrection of Jesus. One of the biggest ones is that the resurrection of Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of God from Genesis 3:15 where it was predicted that the serpent would bruise the heel of the seed of the woman, but that he would crush his head. That means that Satan is a defeated foe (D.L. Moody) and that one little word shall finish him (Martin Luther). **The devil is a snake that has had its head cut off by the gospel of Jesus, but his body is still convulsing before it will finally cease...You can be certain!!!**

*“I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times thing not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.’” Isaiah 46:9b-10*

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When we go through the ups and downs of life, we must remember...

*“But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief...” 2 Peter 3:8-10a*

Because Jesus lives your SOUL can be made alive in Jesus Christ by turning from your sins & placing your faith in Jesus. It's called being Born-Again! And, once your soul has been made alive, you are guaranteed that your body will be resurrected at God's appointed time because you have a Victorious Transformed Future!!!

### **Sources and Further Reading Opportunities**

- **CSB Study Bible** – Trevin Wax, Ed. (2017)
- **Exalting Jesus in 1 Corinthians** – Daniel Akin & James Merritt (2023)
- **Tony Evans Study Bible** – Tony Evans (2019)
- **Spurgeon Study Bible** – Charles Haddon Spurgeon (2017)
- **Bible Exposition Commentary** – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- **New American Commentary: 1 Corinthians** – Mark Taylor (2014)