

Facing the Last Enemy

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Introduction

We've defined death and thought about encountering death biblically; now we'll think about what lies beyond death biblically. This is part of the Good News:: Death is not the last word. This week...

What Does the Bible Teach About the Resurrection?

The specifics about the resurrection of the body were causing some confusion among Corinthian believers. For Paul this wasn't a fringe issue, but one of vital importance. He addresses it in 1 Cor chapter 15

Delivered (1 Cor 15:1-11)

*"For I **delivered** to you as of first importance what I also received..."* (1 Cor 15:3)

- The resurrection of Christ is essential to the Gospel, not peripheral. If you let go of the resurrection, you let go of the Gospel.

That (1 Cor 15:12-34)

*"Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say **that** there is no resurrection of the dead?"* (1 Cor 15:12)

- The bodily resurrection of believers and the resurrection of Christ are inseparable. If we deny it that means...
 - Our preaching and your faith are in vain
 - We are misrepresenting God
 - You are still in your sin
 - Those already dead have truly perished
 - We of all people are most to be pitied

How? (1 Cor 15:35-49)

*"But someone will ask, '**How** are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?'"* (1 Cor 15:35)

- For believers, the resurrection body will be like Jesus' resurrection body
 - Imperishable, not perishable
 - Not dishonor, but glory
 - Not weakness, but power
 - Not natural, but spiritual

Victory (1 Cor 50-58)

*“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.**’” (1 Cor 15:54)*

- The promise of our resurrection gives hope for the future and meaning and encouragement for the present.

“Think about our bodies as they are, so we can more fully appreciate what they will be”