



Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

“Death, Glorification, Unification: What happens to our Body, Soul and Spirit?”

Lesson 11 – Glorification, What will our Resurrected Bodies Be Like?

May 28, 2017

I. Lesson Review:

- “Glorified Bodies” are a different form than our earthly bodies and are re-united with our soul and spirit at the time of the resurrection
- “Glorified, Heavenly and Resurrected” are synonymous terms used for the resurrection form
- Our Glorified body will be like Christ’s

Key Terms used for our Resurrected or Glorified bodies:

“In Glory”

- This term is contrasted to “dishonor”
- Suggestion of the beauty or attractiveness of appearance that we will have eternally
- Glory is used for the “bright shining radiance”

“In Power”

- Contrast to weakness; Not fragile, sick or aging
- Not infinite like God, but the full strength God had intended before the fall

“Spiritual Body”

- Spiritual means “consistent with the character and activity of the Holy Spirit”
- Our natural body is subject to the characteristics and desires of this age, and governed by its own sinful will; our spiritual resurrected body is subject to the will of the Holy Spirit
- A resurrected body is not at all a “nonphysical body”

“Like Christ”

- When Christ returns he will give us new resurrection bodies like his resurrected body.

II. What Will Our Resurrected/Glorified Bodies Be Like, Part 2?

Romans 8:18-25

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.

Luke 24:36-43

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” ⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence. ⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

Our new bodies will be imperishable, meaning they will never wear out, grow old or be sick

- Our resurrected bodies will not cease to exist in some type of physical aspects, but will be changed in ways we do not yet understand
- We will have imperishable bodies
- Our previous mortal and sinful nature, must put on immortality and characteristics of God in spirit and soul (not sin nature)
- Repeated instances of Jesus in a resurrected body form demonstrating flesh and bone, ability to eat; which as we learned last week is the pattern or design for our resurrected bodies

III. What Kind of Continuity will there be between our Bodies and Resurrected Bodies

Will our bodies look exactly the same and have the same physical and mental characteristics? Will they be entirely different? Will our resurrection bodies be made of the same molecules and substances as our earthly bodies? Will they be an entirely new creation?

Several passages seem to indicate that Paul expected a considerable measure of continuity between our present earthly bodies and our future resurrected bodies.

Romans 8:10-11

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you. the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age.

Philippians 3:20-21

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

- Whatever is left of our physical bodies, will be taken by God and transformed
- Details are unclear from scripture itself

Christ's resurrected body, though you could make the argument that the disciples did not recognize him initially, there must have been tremendous continuity for all of the people on earth to recognize that it was actually Christ risen.

- After His resurrection, he would have been restored to the full and perfect strength, with possibly a more youthful appearance?
- The nail scars in his hands and feet plus the side wound still existed on Jesus resurrected body, so there must have been a high degree of continuity (John20:20,27)

Another key point is that people will recognize one another in Heaven.

- Elijah was also recognizable to the disciples on the Mount of Transfiguration when he had been previously called up into heaven

Evidence is often suggestive as opposed to clearly conclusive.

IV. Group Questions:

1. Since our Glorified Bodies will like Christs, list out what characteristics this will include?
 - a. Hint: Look at last week's lesson on Additional Descriptions for the Glorified Body
2. In 1 Corinthians 15:44, discuss the deep meaning of the "spiritual body" verses the "earthly body", using the discussion points from last week on being "consistent with God's character?"
3. When Jesus returned to earth after his resurrection, doesn't this have to be his "Resurrected or Glorified Body"?
4. If you answered yes to Questions 3, how can we argue that these scripture verses are not hard proof that our Resurrected bodies have a high degree of similarity to our physical bodies?
5. Do you feel the examples of Elijah, Jesus and other saints raised and fully recognizable by others living at the time prove that our "resurrected bodies" will have a high degree of consistency with our current physical bodies?
6. Close your eyes and let the Holy Spirit guide you for a moment in silence, can you begin to imagine your glorified body in God's presence? Glory be to God!

Study material is primarily taken from Systematic Theology by Wayne Gruden, Chapter 41-43; The Broadman Bible Commentary by the Southern Baptist Convention and Unger's Bible Dictionary.