



Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

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

Lesson 9 – Glorification, Old Testament Evidence

April 9, 2017

I. Lesson Review:

Glorification is the final step in the application of redemption. It will happen when Christ returns and raises from the dead the bodies of all believers for all time who have died, and reunites them with their souls and changes the bodies of all believers who remain alive, thereby giving all believers at the same time perfect resurrection bodies like his own.

- Our “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
- Resurrection of the believers occurs at the time of Christ’s return
- The dead in Christ will be resurrected bodily first, followed by those alive
- Our Glorified body will be like Christ’s for our eternal presence in Heaven before God
- There are different levels of glory culminating for a believer with our Glorified Body required to experience God’s full glory

II. Evidence of What Jewish People of the Old Testament Thought about Bodily Resurrection

While some people would think that the Old Testament has little to no evidence of the hope of a future resurrection of the body, there is in fact more scriptures than you might realize. Even before Jesus was raised from the dead, many Jewish people living at the time of Christ had hope of a bodily resurrection.

John 11:23-28

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

Acts 24:14-16

¹⁴ However, I admit that I worship the God of our ancestors as a follower of the Way, which they call a sect. I believe everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets, ¹⁵ and I have the same hope in God as these men themselves have, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. ¹⁶ So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.

- Clear examples that a belief of a bodily resurrection existed through history for the Jewish people
- Does not say that the resurrection of all dead (believers and non-believers) is at the same time

Hebrews 11:17-19

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, ¹⁸ even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” ¹⁹ Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

III. Old Testament Evidence for Glorification

The Old Testament itself has indications that the authors had a strong expectation of the resurrection to come in the future.

Job 19:25-27

²⁵ I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; ²⁷ I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

- Job clearly shows a bodily expectation of being in God's presence beyond only his soul or spirit

Psalms 49:13-15

13 This is the fate of those who trust in themselves, and of their followers, who approve their sayings. ¹⁴ They are like sheep and are destined to die; death will be their shepherd (but the upright will prevail over them in the morning). Their forms will decay in the grave, far from their princely mansions. ¹⁵ But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead; he will surely take me to himself.

- Discusses the death of our earthly body
- Decay in the grave is addressed as the opposite of the form we will have in the resurrection
- Our resurrection will be with God

Daniel 12:1-4

¹ At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. ² Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. ⁴ But you, Daniel, roll up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end."

- Daniel says that believers that are in the Lambs Book of Life will be delivered (Can interpret as a deliverance from the Tribulation period or Believers deliverance from death)
- Those asleep through death (again, this is an OT phrase for death, not supporting Soul Sleep) will be resurrected either to 1) Everlasting Life or 2) Shame and everlasting contempt
- Those we are "wise" and "lead many to righteousness" should be interpreted as those that are "Saved" and those "Who helped lead others to Christ"

While Old Testament believers certainly did not have as much detail about the nature of the resurrection or the way it would come about through resurrection of Jesus, they did exhibit a clear basis for confidence in the resurrection of believers. They seemed very aware of ready to receive the full-fledged New Testament teachings.

IV. **Group Questions:**

1. Review Section 1 and discuss any lingering questions or scripture interpretation difference from Lesson 8 last week about "Glorification". Specifically bring up concerns or issues that you feel differently?
2. Do you see any differences in the OT scriptures referencing "resurrection" verses NT references? What is noticeably absent in the OT references compared to some NT ones?
3. Discuss Daniel 12:1-4 and answer the following questions:
 - a. When does he say the resurrection will occur?
 - b. Does Daniel say that both the saved and unsaved will be resurrected? What does he say is different between the two?
 - c. Does this scripture help you understand and believe NT scriptures more on this subject?