

YOUR BODY NOW AND THEN - 1 Cor 15:42-49

040421A

INTRODUCTION

1. Paul's teaching on the resurrection in 1C 15. Jesus' resurrection: bodily.
 - i. v35 = the question being answered
 - ii. Not *flesh* [Jn 1:14] but *body*: entire humanity, all faculties.
2. Resurrection is not of some aspect of our humanity, but of *body* - v42a lit: "out of the dead ones" - "standing up in the midst of corpses" [Ezek 37]

1st: Your Body Now and Then

1. Bible's binary: this age & age to come, not material & immaterial: v44b-49
2. Now & then: this age & age to come [Mt 12:32; Lk 18:30; Eph 1:20-21]
3. This age: bounded by creation & 2nd coming & pivots into age to come in resurrection, Final Judgment -> eternal state.
4. Humans live in 2 ages - *natural then spiritual body*. Our humanity as *image* - v49. Note: Paul speaks to Christians.
5. Christ as 2nd Adam [v45] - v20-26 [Rm 5:17]
 - i. *1st natural man* = Adam - creation & sin/death
 - ii. Resurrected Jesus = *last Adam [the heavenly 2nd man]* - obedience/life & resurrection.
6. Our humanity both in Adam [natural/earthly] & Christ [spiritual/heavenly] is embodied. Your body now & then.

2nd: Your Body Before

1. The human body before the Fall - original creation - v45a = Gn 2:7
2. God directly *formed* Adam [*the man*] *of dust* - made alive by in-breathing [w/ His *nephesh* = *breathe*] & man became *living being* [animals - Gn 3:19 - creaturely life], but only Adam is image of God, son of God.
3. Would you like to have a body like Adam's pre-Fall, pre-death, body?

3rd: Your Body Now

1. It is impossible to obtain a non-cursed-body. Point of reference is future body - v35. Our hope is not optimum health but resurrection.

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2. v35-38 analogy: a seed planted & plant grows. *Sow* = die; *raise* = resurrect.
3. 4 couplets contrast now-body w/ resurrection-body - v36-38
 - i. *Perishable & imperishable:*
 - ii. *dishonor & glory*
 - iii. *power & weakness*
 - iv. *Body* stands for entirety of humanity - not just muscles & organs but also mind & faculties of "soul". [An aside: apply to interp of 2C 4:16]

4th: Your Body Then

1. Recall Bible's binary of v44-49. How are we to think of resurrected body?
2. v45b - think of the resurrected Jesus: *became life-giving spirit*: "life" + "making" - used re: resurrection life. v22; v36.
 - i. Jn 5:21; Jn 6:63; Rm 4:17b; Rm 8:11; Eph 2:5
 - ii. What does the resurrected Jesus give us? Life - resurrection life.
3. The resurrected Jesus is embodied - *first fruits* [v20] - v23. As is it w/ the first fruits, so it is w/ the entire harvest. All that the incarnate Son of God accomplished, is accomplished bodily. Phil 3:20-21 - bodily hope.
4. What is Jesus' glorified body like? Transfiguration: Mt 13:43; Dan 12:3

Applic - Be Some Body

1. 1C 6:19-20 - *glorify God in your body* - 1C 10:31
2. All involved in living this *natural* life is to be submitted to the power & purpose of our *spiritual* life lived in strength of HS by faith in the risen Jesus. Paul's applic = 1C 15:58