

🌿 Midweek Bible Study

Behold, I Tell You a Mystery 1 Cor. 15:50-58

- I. Flesh and Blood Does Not Inherit the Kingdom (50)
 - A. Declaration: “important and weighty pronouncement”
 - B. Entering the future kingdom
 - C. This is a recap statement of 42-44; 45-49

- II. The Mystery (51-53)
 - A. Mystery (51a)
 - 1. A mystery is something that is revealed.
 - 2. Although present in the OT, it is concealed (in part or whole) and then revealed in the NT. E.g., Rom. 16:25-26
 - 3. The mystery that is now revealed is that both the dead and the living will be transformed, resurrected. (Job 19:25; Isa. 26:19; Dan. 12:2-3)

“The revelation of the mystery solves the dilemma raised by Paul in 1 Cor. 15:35, 50. It does not narrowly refer to the transformation of the living, a situation that would only solve part of the problem, but the entire group of individuals, both the living and the dead.” (*Hidden But Now Revealed, a Biblical Theology of Mystery*, Beale and Gladd, 131).
 - B. We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed (51b)
 - C. At the last trumpet we will be changed (52)
When will this happen?
 - 1. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye
 - 2. At the last trumpet
- Christ’s return (Matt. 24:31; 1 Thess. 4:16)
 - 3. The trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable
 - 4. And we will be changed
Cf. 1 Thess. 4:13-18
 - D. The change (53)



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III. Victory Over Death Through our Lord Jesus Christ (54-57)

A. The Death of Death (54-55)

1. Then will come about the saying: Death is swallowed up in victory

Isa. 25:8 He will swallow up death for all time, And the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces, And He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.

Hosea 13:14 Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol? Shall I redeem them from death? O Death, where are your thorns? O Sheol, where is your sting? Compassion will be hidden from My sight.

B. Sin and death and law (56)

1. The sting of death is sin
2. The power of sin is the law
One of Paul's "root convictions" (the law isn't even in view here)
The law stirs and strengthens sin, it does not prevent it!
Rom. 5:20; 7:5, 7

C. Thanks to God for the victory through Christ (57)

IV. Final Exhortation (58)

A. Address – beloved brethren

B. Be steadfast and immovable Col. 1:23

C. Always abounding in the work of the Lord

D. Knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord

