

## 1 Corinthians 15:12-58 **Resurrection – Jesus – Order – Bodies Changed at Rapture**

### Importance of the Resurrection of Jesus

12 Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. 15 Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up--if in fact the dead do not rise. 16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. 17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! 18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

### Order of Resurrection – Christ first

20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

### Kingdom of God

24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

### Baptized for the dead – Life in Jeopardy every hour – All futile if the dead are not raised

29 Otherwise, what will they do who are baptized for the dead, if the dead do not rise at all? Why then are they baptized for the dead?

30 And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? 31 I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

32 If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me? If the dead do not rise, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!"

### Awake to Righteousness

33 Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." 34 Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.

### Resurrection Bodies

35 But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"

36 Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies. 37 And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain--perhaps wheat or some other grain. 38 But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fish, and another of birds.

40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. 41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

### Natural Body – Spiritual Body

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. 47 The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.

### Changed at the Rapture

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "O Death, where is your sting?  
O Hades, where is your victory?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

### Importance of the Resurrection of Jesus

✠ Some people were questioning the concept of the resurrection of the dead.

✧ The **Sadducees** say there is no resurrection. [Matthew 22:23, Mark 12:18, Luke 20:27, Acts 4:1-2, 23:8]

✠ Paul reasoned that if they were correct it would pose problems for the entire Christian faith. [1 Corinthians 15:12-19]

✧ **If there is no resurrection**, then:

- ✧ Christ could not have risen from the dead.
- ✧ The eyewitness testimony of the Apostles would be false.
- ✧ The faith of believers would be empty and vain.
- ✧ You are still in your sins.
- ✧ All who have died believing in the resurrection are dead and perished.
- ✧ If hope in Christ is only for this life, then we are of all men most pitiable.

### Order of Resurrection – Christ first

✠ Truth of the Gospel message is that Christ is risen from the dead and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep (died). [1 Corinthians 15:20-23]

✠ There is an order of Resurrection, each in his own order:

✧ Christ the First fruit.

- ✧ Death came through **Adam**.
- ✧ Resurrection to life came through **Jesus Christ**.

✧ After Christ, those who are Christ's will be seen at His coming.

- ✧ After the Resurrection of Jesus, the Saints were raised and many appeared to people in Jerusalem. [Matthew 27:52-53]
- ✧ From that time on, at the time of death the Saints go immediately to be in the presence of Jesus in Paradise. [Luke 16:19-25, 23:39-43, 2 Corinthians 5:1-8]
- ✧ At the moment of the Rapture, the dead rise first and the living are changed and caught up with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. [1 Thessalonians 4:13-17]
- ✧ After the Great Tribulation, those who were beheaded by the Antichrist and False Prophet will be raised. [Revelation 20:4]

### Kingdom of God [1 Corinthians 15:24-28]

✠ Jesus must reign until all enemies are put under His feet.

- ✧ Jesus will put an end to all rule, and all authority and power.
- ✧ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

✠ When all enemies are put under the feet of Jesus, then Jesus will deliver the Kingdom to God the Father.

✧ Jesus will subject Himself to God the Father that God the Father may be all in all.

### Baptized for the dead – Life in Jeopardy every hour – All futile if the dead are not raised

✠ If the dead are not raised; [1 Corinthians 15:29-32]

- ✧ Why are people baptized for the dead?
- ✧ Why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? I die daily.
- ✧ What advantage is it to me that I fought with beasts at Ephesus?
- ✧ If the dead are not raised, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!

### Do not be deceived – Awake to Righteousness

✠ Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." [1 Corinthians 15:33]

✠ Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame. [1 Corinthians 15:34]

✧ The fact that some do not have the knowledge of God is to their shame, because God has done so much to reveal Himself to us throughout the history of mankind on the earth.

### Resurrection Bodies [1 Corinthians 15:35-41]

✠ Someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"

- ✧ The mortal body is like a seed:
- ✧ The Spiritual body cannot be born until the mortal body dies and is buried.

- ✧ God gives it a body as He pleases, to each seed its own body.
- ✧ All flesh is not the same flesh, human, animal, fish, or birds.
- ✧ There are celestial bodies, and terrestrial bodies each differing in glory.
- ✧ The sun, moon, and stars, each differs from another in glory, even each star differs from another in glory.

#### Natural Body – Spiritual Body [1 Corinthians 15:42-50]

- ✧ There is a natural body – There is a Spiritual body.
  - ✧ The resurrection of the dead demonstrates the change from mortal to Spiritual.
  - ✧ It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.
  - ✧ It is sown in corruption it is raised in incorruption.
  - ✧ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory.
  - ✧ It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.
  
- ✧ Adam became a living being – Jesus became a life giving Spirit
  - ✧ The Natural comes first – Afterward the Spiritual
  - ✧ As sure as we bear the image of the man of dust Adam
  - ✧ We shall also certainly bear the image of the Man of Heaven Jesus Christ
  - ✧ Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

#### Changed at the Rapture [1 Corinthians 15:51-57]

- ✧ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.
  - ✧ In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last Trumpet.
  - ✧ The trumpet shall sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
  - ✧ So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

"O Death, where is your sting?  
O Hades, where is your victory?"

- ✧ The sting of Death is sin. [1 Corinthians 15:56]
  - ✧ For the wages of sin is death. [Romans 6:23, 5:12-21, James 1:14-15]
- ✧ The strength of sin is the Law. [1 Corinthians 15:56]
  - ✧ The Law reveals what is sin leading to death. [Romans 5:13, 7:7, 7:13]
  
- ✧ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. [1 Corinthians 15:57]

#### Conclusion

- ✧ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. [1 Corinthians 15:58]