

Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD  
PART TWO: A NEW BODY

Tonight, we motor on in our study called, “Resurrection of the Dead”. Let’s do a short recap. Sin affected every level of life: spiritual, emotional, physical. For redemption to be complete, it must be total – redeeming all three levels. As in Adam, all die – so in Christ, all are made alive. If Jesus tarries, all will die since physical death is the last enemy destroyed. But, the physical body finds its redemption in the resurrection from the dead. Before we move into a discussion of our new body, let me touch briefly on a biblical controversy found in chapter 15 of 1 Corinthians called baptism for the dead. It is easy to see from the writings to the Corinthian church, that Gnosticism was trying to infect the church.

*Gnosticism (from [Ancient Greek](#): γνῶστικός, [romanized](#): gnōstikós, [Koine Greek](#): [ynosti'kos], 'having knowledge') is a collection of religious ideas and systems which originated in the first century AD among [early Christian](#) and [Jewish](#) sects.[1] These various groups emphasised personal spiritual knowledge ([gnosis](#)) over the orthodox teachings, traditions, and authority of the [church](#). Viewing material existence as flawed or evil, Gnostic [cosmogony](#) generally presents a distinction between a supreme, hidden [God](#) and a malevolent [lesser divinity](#) (sometimes associated with the [Yahweh](#) of the [Old Testament](#))[2] who is responsible for creating the [material universe](#). [3] Gnostics considered the principal element of [salvation](#) to be direct knowledge of the supreme divinity in the form of mystical or [esoteric](#) insight. Many Gnostic texts deal not in concepts of [sin](#) and [repentance](#), but with [illusion](#) and [enlightenment](#). [3]*

Marcion, an early influencer was a proponent of these beliefs. His influence helped institute a baptism for the dead or baptism by proxy. Paul never accepts the practice of baptism for the dead as doctrine but pokes fun at it because its practice ran against what the Gnostics stated they believed. If the body is not going to be resurrected, why be baptized? Clear as mud?

[1 Corinthians 15:35-49 \(NKJV\)](#)

To experience full glory, these bodies of dust must be sown or changed. The glory of the terrestrial is one glory. The glory of God is another. Raised

to inherit perfection, our bodies are changed to be like Christ's resurrected body:

Philippians 3:20-21 (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 15 has some descriptions of a transformation that must/will take place:

- Corruption to Incorruption: from deterioration to lacking the ability to break down.
- Dishonor to Glory: from base lusts to divine quality.
- Weakness to Power: from handicaps that go with weakness to God's inherent ability.
- Natural to Spiritual: from behavior more of the earth than heaven to the revelation of Christ.

Our "federal head", Adam's decision brought death and deterioration but our "Second federal head", Jesus brought resurrection from the dead into the life intended for all humanity.

Today's Scriptures:

- 1 Corinthians 15:35-49 (NKJV)
- Philippians 3:20-21 (NKJV)