

# God's Plan for the Future

## Study Sheet

(Content herein based on the work of David Jeremiah, *The Book of Signs*; and from personal study notes)

### The Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:35-49

A good lead-in... **1 Corinthians 15:12-34** – *Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? (13) But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. (14) And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. (15) We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. (16) For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. (17) And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. (18) Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. (19) If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. (20) But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. (21) For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. (22) For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. (23) But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. (24) Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. (25) For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (27) For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. (28) When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all. (29) Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? (30) Why are we in danger every hour? (31) I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! (32) What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." (33) Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." (34) Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.*

**15:35** – *But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"*

Two questions – four responses:

1. An illustration from nature (36-38)

*You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. (37) And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. (38) But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.*

2. A description of resurrection bodies (39-41)

*For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. (40) There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. (41) There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.*

3. A contrast of earthly and resurrection bodies (42-44)

*So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. (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. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.*

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### 4. A reminder of the resurrection of Christ—a prototype for believers (45-49)

*Thus, it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. (46) But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. (47) The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. (48) As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. (49) Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.*

According to 1 Corinthians 15...

Our new bodies will be \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 42)

*So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.*

**Psalm 16:10** – *For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.*

**Romans 6:8-9** – *Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.*

*(9) We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.*

**Hebrews 9:27** – *It is appointed for man to die once...*

Our new bodies will be \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 43, 49)

*(43) It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory ... Glory = brilliance*

**Exodus 34:29** – *When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.*

**Luke 9:28-30** – *Now about eight days after these sayings he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. (29) And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. (30) And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, (31) who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.*

**Revelation 21:10-11** – *And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, (11) having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.*

**Matthew 13:43** – *Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.*

**Philippians 3:20-21** – *But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (21) who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body...*

*(49) As we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.*

Our Lord's resurrected body gives us a few glimpses of what our resurrected bodies will be like:

First and most importantly, the Lord's resurrected body was \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 24:39** – *See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.*



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Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ in His resurrected body

**Luke 24:40-43** – *And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. (41) And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" (42) They gave him a piece of broiled fish, (43) and he took it and ate before them.*

**John 21:12-13** – *Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. (13) Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish.*

Jesus' resurrected body was \_\_\_\_\_

**John 20:27** – *Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."*

Jesus' resurrected body was \_\_\_\_\_

**John 21:12** – *...None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.*

**1 John 3:2** – *Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears, we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He is.*

**1 Corinthians 13:12** – *For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.*

Our bodies will be bodies, not ghosts or phantoms.

Our bodies will be resurrected and glorified—equipped for \_\_\_\_\_!

Our new bodies will be \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 43)

*...It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.* "sown" = buried

In heaven with our resurrected bodies, we'll be capable of extraordinary things like...

**John 20:19** – *On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."*

**Acts 1:9-11** – *And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. (10) And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, (11) and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."*

Our new bodies will be \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 44-45)

*It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. (45) Thus, it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.*

Jesus' body was real, before and after resurrection.

**1 John 1:1-2** – *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— (2) the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—*

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Concluding remarks and observations about the resurrection of believers...

About the \_\_\_\_\_ of resurrection (vs. 50-57)

*I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. (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 imperishable, and we shall be changed. (53) For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. (54) When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." (55) "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (56) The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. (57) But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

About future vs. \_\_\_\_\_ (34, 58)

*(34) Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame. ... (58) Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

The extraordinary resurrection event that occurred immediately \_\_\_\_\_ the crucifixion  
**Matthew 27:50-53** – *And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. (51) And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. (52) The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, (53) and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.*