

A PLACE CALLED HEAVEN

Answering 10 Questions About Your Eternal Home

WILL WE KNOW ONE ANOTHER IN HEAVEN?

1 John 3:2

DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS | OCTOBER 30, 2016

INTRODUCTION: One of the most frequently asked questions about heaven is, “Will we recognize one another in heaven?” Behind that question is an even more fundamental one: What will our bodies be like in heaven? Interestingly, the Bible gives many specific details about the nature of our new bodies.

John 21:18 “I tell you the truth, when you were young, you were able to do as you liked; you dressed yourself and went wherever you wanted to go. But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and others will dress you and take you where you don’t want to go.”

I. The Promise Of A Resurrection Body

A. God’s Original Design: **Body** and **Spirit** (Genesis 2:7)

Genesis 2:7 “Then the LORD God formed man from dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”

B. God’s Future Plan: Two **Resurrections** (Daniel 12:2; Revelation 20:6; Revelation 20:13-14)

Daniel 12:2 “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these [believers] to everlasting life, but the others [unbelievers] to disgrace and everlasting contempt.”

1. The “first resurrection” (Revelation 20:6; 1 Corinthians 15:22-23)

Revelation 20:6 “Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.”

1 Corinthians 15:22-23 “²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive.
²³ But each in his own order; Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming.”

2. The “second resurrection” (Revelation 20:13-14)

Revelation 20:13-14 “¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades [the temporary residing place of all the unsaved dead] gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. ¹⁴ And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.”

II. The Possibility Of A Resurrection Body (1 Corinthians 15:35-38)

1 Corinthians 15:35 “But someone will say, ‘How are the dead raised? And what kind of body do they come?’”

A. The Analogy: Planting and Harvesting (1 Corinthians 15:36-38)

1 Corinthians 15:36-38 “³⁶ ...that which you sow does not come to life unless it dies; ³⁷ and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which is to be, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own.”

B. The Process

1. The **death** of the seed

2. The **reaping** of the harvest
 - a. The harvest is **superior** to the seed
 - b. The harvest is **similar** to the seed

III. The Prototype Of Our Resurrection Body: Jesus (1 John 3:2)

1 John 3:2 “Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.”

A. Was Jesus’ Resurrection Spiritual or Physical? (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 “³I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

B. What Was Jesus’ Resurrection Body Like?

1. It was **superior** to His earthly body (John 20:19b)

John 20:19b “...Jesus came and stood in their midst, and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’”

2. It was **similar** to His earthly body (Luke 24:35b)

Luke 24:35b “...He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.”

IV. The Particulars Of Our Resurrection Body

1 John 3:2 “Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.”

A. Our Bodies Will Be **Physical** (1 Corinthians 15:39-44)

1 Corinthians 15:39-41 “³⁹All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish. ⁴⁰There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another. ⁴¹There 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.”

1 Corinthians 15:42-44 “⁴²So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; ⁴³it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.”

The Differences Between Our Earthly Body and Our Heavenly Body

- Our earthly bodies decay; our heavenly bodies will endure.
- Our earthly bodies are infected with sin; our heavenly bodies will be free of sin.
- Our earthly bodies are weak; our heavenly bodies will be powerful.
- Our earthly bodies are for the old earth; our heavenly bodies are for the new earth.

1. We will **eat** in our new bodies (Luke 22:29-30a)

Luke 22:29-30a “²⁹Just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, I grant you ^{30a}that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom...”

2. We will wear **clothes** (Revelation 1:13b, 3:5a)

Revelation 1:13b “...clothed in a robe reaching to His feet, and girded across His chest [was] a golden sash.”

Revelation 3:5a “He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments...”

3. We will retain our **sexual** identities (Luke 24:16)

Luke 24:16 “But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him.”

B. Our Bodies Will Be **Perfect** (Revelation 21:4b, 23:3a)

Revelation 21:4b "...the first things [the things of the earth] have passed away."

Revelation 22:3a "And there shall no longer be any curse;"

C. Our Bodies Will Be **Personal** (Luke 24:39)

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."

Isaiah 66:22 "For just as the new heavens and the new earth which I make will endure before Me, declares the LORD, So your offspring and your name will endure."

Revelation 2:17b "To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it."

Conclusion