EXTREME MAKEOVER
The Resurrection Body
1 Corinthians 15:35-58

"I can scarcely believe it: I with shriveled, bent fingers, atrophied muscles, gnarled knees, and no feeling from the shoulders down, will one day have a new body, light, bright and clothed in righteousness – powerful and dazzling. Can you imagine the hope this gives someone spinal-cord injured like me? Or someone cerebral-palsied, brain-injured, or who has multiple sclerosis? No other religion, no other philosophy promises new bodies, hearts and minds. Only in the Gospel of Christ do hurting people find such incredible hope."

Joni Eareckson Tada
"Heaven – Your Real Home"

I. He gives us a transformed _____ (15:35-44)

"How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come? (vs. 35)

"You'll find the answer in your own garden! When you put a seed into the ground it doesn't grow into a plant unless it 'dies' first." (vs. 36)

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds" John 12:24.

"When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body." (vs. 37)

"Man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment"
Hebrews 9:27.

* The post-resurrection body of Jesus ~

A. It was a _____ body
-He could eat, walk, talk
-He wasn't transparent or weightless
-There wasn't a tremendous difference between him and any other man

"Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, as you see I have" Luke 24:39.

B. It was a _____ body

-He could disappear
-He could walk through walls or locked doors
-He could defy gravity

"Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" 1 John 3:2.

"If you were to tell a tiny acorn that one day he would be as tall as a building, with heavy branches and thick green leaves, that nut would say you were crazy. A gigantic oak bears no resemblance to a tiny round acorn. The two, though related, seem as different as night and day. No wonder you and I get stymied thinking about what our bodies will be like. What kind of glory will be revealed in my broken, paralyzed body? How is it my useless hands and legs are but a seed of the splendor that will one day be my resurrection body? There's no way I can comprehend it. But I tell you this: Whatever my little acorn shape becomes, I'm ready for it."

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II. He gives us a transformed _____ (15:45-50)

* The "first man" = Adam
-Creature of the dust
-Fallen into sin
-His "offspring" (humanity) inherit his nature

* The "second man" = Jesus Christ
-His father is not Adam, but God
-He does not possess the "nature" of sin
-He is free of the guilt and penalty of sin
-His "offspring" (believers) inherit his nature

"To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" John 1:12.

III. He gives us _____ over death (15:51-58)

* The mystery – Whether we die and are resurrected from the grave, or we're alive at our Lord's 2nd coming and are taken up to meet him in the clouds, however it happens, we will all be transformed! In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

"According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever"

1 Thessalonians 4:15-17.

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain”