

# Church Purity in a Polluted Culture - Part 24

1 Corinthians 15:35-58



“Heavenly Answers to Worldly Questions”

Paul concludes this portion of the letter by using undeniable logic to reinforce the truth, nature and power of resurrection.

### Questioning the Resurrection (15:35)

*But someone may ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?” (1 Cor 15:35 NIV)*

Who is asking?

- First question is likely raised as an objection by those \_\_\_\_\_ the doctrine.
- Second question is likely raised as an enquiry of curious \_\_\_\_\_.

### Paul’s Answers to these Questions (15:36-41)

- I. *How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. (36)*
- II. In answering the second question, Paul uses familiar analogies to illustrate this truth.
  - i. \_\_\_\_\_ (37-38)
  - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ (39)
  - iii. \_\_\_\_\_ (40-41)

### Resurrected Body (15:42-44a)

Paul applies these analogies to the resurrected body.

<i>SOWN perishable</i>	<i>RAISED</i>
<i>SOWN in</i>	<i>RAISED in glory</i>
<i>SOWN in weakness</i>	<i>RAISED in</i>
<i>SOWN a</i>	<i>RAISED a spiritual body</i>

*The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. (Gal 6:8 NIV)*

### Distinction between the natural and spiritual body (15:44b-49)

Paul develops this distinction into two categories:

- I. \_\_\_\_\_ and his descendents.
- II. \_\_\_\_\_ and his redeemed ones.

*who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. (Phil 3:21 NIV)*

The sequence is important here: Natural (earthly) then Spiritual (heavenly)

### Summarizing the Argument for the Resurrection (15:50-54a)

*...\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ cannot inherit the kingdom of God. (50)*

Paul uses the term “mystery”, implying that there are some things they did not understand.

### Victory! (15:54b-57)

*...then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.” “Where, O death is your victory? Where, O death is your sting?” (1 Cor 15:54b-55)*

The reason for Paul’s enthusiasm:

*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. (56)*

A righteous response:

*But thanks be to God! He gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ through our Lord Jesus Christ. (57)*

### Application (15:58)

*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. (1 Cor 15:58 NIV)*

- I. Stand \_\_\_\_\_ .
- II. Let \_\_\_\_\_ move you.
- III. Always give yourselves \_\_\_\_\_ to the work of the Lord.

***your labor in the Lord is not in vain.***