

What Will YOU Be Like in the Resurrection?

What kind of body will we have? It will be of a different TYPE and for a different PURPOSE than you have probably imagined!

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IF YOU could examine the kind of body you will have when you are resurrected to immortality, it would clear up a great many questions in your mind, would it not?

SOMEONE HAS ALREADY ACQUIRED THE SAME TYPE OF BODY THAT YOU WILL HAVE and that person is JESUS CHRIST!

What Is the Family of God?

GOD, the FATHER, has desired to form for Himself, and *from His very Being a FAMILY of immortal children* who will be *partakers* of His own "*divine nature*" (II Peter 1:4 and Psalm 17:15), and who can be trusted with great power and on whom He can lavish His love by sharing with them all that He has created.

THIS FAMILY will compose the KINGDOM OF GOD. You must be *born* of God to enter it.

Being a God of order, He has established laws which we must obey in order to be admitted to this family. *We must show, in advance, our willingness to be obedient to Him* by having these laws written in our hearts and minds (II Cor. 3:3).

If we are not obedient, then we sin (I John 3:4), and the wages of sin is established as death (Romans 6:23). *Eternal death!* "ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)—ALL of mortal mankind that God ever made were doomed to die!

Most certainly there could be no FAMILY of GOD formed from these mortal people if they were to be dead *forever!*

It was at this point that the WORD, who was soon to become the SON of GOD, sacrificed the GLORY of being God to BECOME "FLESH AND BLOOD" JUST

AS YOU AND I (Heb. 2:14), so that He could *die* in place of *us* for *our* sins. No wonder we owe so much to Christ!

How It All Began

Now notice, *very carefully*, the BEGETTAL of the FATHER'S VERY FIRST SON, who would later, *after His physical death*, be *born into* the FAMILY OF GOD!

The angel, speaking to Mary concerning Christ's future birth, said, "The HOLY SPIRIT of the Highest shall over-shadow thee: therefore that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the SON OF GOD." (Luke 1:35).

The angel said to Joseph, Mary's husband: "... fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is CONCEIVED [or BEGOTTEN] is of the HOLY SPIRIT."

TWO things happened here: Christ was begotten as a mortal man and PHYSICAL BIRTH took place shortly thereafter—AND—He was also BEGOTTEN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT at that time.

At the end of His *physical life* he died a PHYSICAL DEATH in the place of all mortal men who would have died for their own sin, BUT—at His *resurrection* He was *born AGAIN—this time a SPIRITUAL BIRTH* because He had been *begotten* by the *Holy Spirit*. This time He was *born into* the SPIRIT FAMILY of GOD with a SPIRITUAL BODY! (I Cor. 15:44, 45).

"Except a man be BORN AGAIN he cannot see [or enter] the kingdom [or family] of God." (John 3:3, 5). "It is sown a natural body; it is raised a *spiritual body*." (I Cor. 15:44). "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God" (I Cor. 15:50). "That which is born of flesh *is flesh*; and that which is born of Spirit *is spirit*." (John 3:6). Christ's physical body, which did not corrupt, was *changed* into spirit like that

of the Father. God is spirit (John 4:24).

Christ Our Brother

It was the HOLY SPIRIT of GOD, put there by the Father at Christ's human begettal and dwelling in Christ, by which the FATHER resurrected Him with an *immortal SPIRITUAL BODY*. He has promised to give *you* and *me* the *same reward* IF we now let God beget us with the impregnating germ of eternal life, His Holy Spirit!

"... if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies *by the Spirit* that dwelleth in you." (Romans 8:11). To "quicken" is to make eternally alive!

By repenting and being baptized, YOU and I, who are *made of the same MORTAL FLESH* which Christ took on Himself by having Mary as His mother (Heb. 2:14), may also *receive the gift*, or, in other words, BE BEGOTTEN OF, the Holy Spirit!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? IT MEANS that *when* YOU and I are resurrected, CHRIST BECOMES OUR ELDEST BROTHER in the SPIRIT FAMILY of GOD, for *all* will have the same FATHER, *all* will be begotten of the same SPIRIT—GOD'S SPIRIT—and *all* will be born into the same FAMILY! (Romans 8:29; Heb. 2:11, 12).

IT MEANS that as Christ will be our elder brother *then*, YOU and I WILL HAVE THE SAME KIND OF BODY THAT HE HAS! "We shall be like him." (I John 3:2).

New Body for New Work

The OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCE between the body we *now* have and the one we *will* have is that while this one is a *natural* or *mortal body* the one we shall have will be a different, SPIRIT-

UAL BODY: "It is sown a natural body; it is raised a *spiritual body*" (I Corinthians 15:44). If we are alive at the time of the resurrection, our mortal bodies will be changed just as an egg becomes, or is changed into a chick. If we have died, our *character* comes forth out of the dust in a spiritual body which God gives through His Holy Spirit from heaven (II Cor. 5:2). This is a different kind of resurrection than to mortal life as described in Ezekiel 37.

Also we read: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; *so is everyone* that is born of the Spirit." (John 3:8). Spirit is not subject to physical laws because it is not *matter*.

Jesus Christ could SUDDENLY APPEAR: "—and as they thus spoke, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified. . . ." (Luke 24:36-37).

He also had the ability to VANISH after He was resurrected: ". . . and he vanished out of sight." (Luke 24:31).

We shall be able to PASS THROUGH BARRIERS or walls as Christ did: "Then the same day at evening . . . WHEN THE DOORS WERE SHUT where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst. . . ." (John 20:19).

We will be able to TRAVEL RAPIDLY through space. In John 20:17 Christ says: "*Touch me not* for I am *not yet* ascended to my Father. . . ." Now note that *on the same day* Christ had been able to travel to the Father and return: "And as they went to tell his disciples, behold; Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet" (Matt. 28:9).

The eating of FOOD will not be necessary although we may eat for pleasure as did Jesus with his disciples (Luke 24:41-43), and, of course, NO SHELTER will be necessary.

When desirable, we will be able to CHANGE into a BODY OF PHYSICAL FLESH AND BONE so mortal eyes can see us: ". . . Jesus himself stood in the midst of them [after the crucifixion] . . . but they were terrified and supposed that they had seen a spirit . . . and he said . . . Behold my hands and my feet, that *it is I myself*: handle me and see; for

a spirit hath not flesh and bones, AS ye see me have" (Luke 24:36-39). A spirit has *spiritual* flesh and bones, composed of spirit, not *physical* AS the disciples saw Jesus. Since man is in the image of God, both man and God must have form and shape, hence flesh and bones; but one physical, the other spiritual. We will not change into flesh and blood because the life we shall have is not from the blood but from the Spirit of God. (Lev. 17:11; John 6-63, II Cor. 3:6).

Now, what about the WORK we are to do in the 1000 years of Christ's and our rule HERE ON THIS EARTH (Revelation 20:4 and Isaiah chapter 11), in relation to these new, powerful bodies which are like Jesus' and the Father's?

We know that we shall be JUDGES (Revelation 20:1-4), and PRIESTS (Revelation 20:6), and RULERS (Revelation 20:4) of God and Christ *on this earth* (Revelation 5:10). To govern all the great number of human beings, who at that time will need guidance (Isaiah 2:1-5, 9:6-7; Jeremiah 31:1-9) so that they can also be *begotten* and *be born* into the FAMILY OF GOD, we will certainly need the kind of body that Christ and the Father possess (Isaiah 40:28 and 31).

This certainly does not say that, at death, we go at once *to heaven*, and lie around in idleness and ease, does it? NO! And the Bible DOES NOT teach it! (Zechariah 14th chapter). We will have work to do according to the PLAN REVEALED ONLY IN THE BIBLE! We shall be teachers visibly manifested to human beings (Isaiah 30:20). With bodies that can do without food or shelter and which can travel so rapidly, those called now can accomplish an immense amount in guiding large numbers of people and in governing the universe with God!

Glorified Bodies

We have now seen that OUR BODIES are to be resurrected as SPIRITUAL bodies (I Corinthians 15:44), and that we will be able to change into physical FLESH and BONE (Luke 24:39) in different forms (Mark 16:12).

But there is *something else* that is going to happen to OUR SPIRITUAL BODIES—something that Christ consid-

ered VERY IMPORTANT! Notice what Christ said to the FATHER in finishing His work here on this earth!

"I have *glorified Thee* on the earth: I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do And now, O Father, GLORIFY THOU ME WITH THINE OWN SELF with the GLORY WHICH I HAD WITH THEE BEFORE THE WORLD WAS." (John 17:5).

Christ said "I have GLORIFIED THEE." But how? In raising people from the *dead*, *healing*, and performing *miracles* He had GLORIFIED GOD by showing to man ONLY A PART of GOD'S GREAT POWER! Soon Christ was going to be back with the FATHER again and he looked forward to being RESTORED to the GREAT POWER HE ONCE HAD! TO BE GLORIFIED MEANS TO BE GIVEN POWER AND GLORY!

BUT what has that to do with us? GOD IS GOING TO GLORIFY YOU and ME ALSO—going to GIVE YOU and ME GREAT POWER! "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are CHILDREN OF GOD: and if children, then heirs of God and JOINT-HEIRS WITH CHRIST; if so be that we suffer with him that WE [You and I] MAY BE ALSO GLORIFIED TOGETHER. (Romans 8:17 and II Cor. 3:18). This prospect leaves us breathless, yet there it is *in your own BIBLE*! Read it! God has promised it and HE WILL DO IT! (I Cor. 15:43).

This *power* we shall have will be *so great* that it will MAKE OUR SPIRIT BODIES SHINE as the SUN and our raiment be white as the light. Jesus gave us a fleeting glimpse of this future condition when he was transfigured while Peter, James, and John looked on: ". . . till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom . . . and after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James and John . . . up into a high mountain apart, and was transfigured before them and his face did shine as the sun and his raiment was white as light." (Matthew 16:28 and 17:1-2).

But there are other places that give us a more complete picture of the GLORIFIED BODY we will have (Rev. 1:13-16).

Also Daniel 12:3: "and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life . . . and they that be wise SHALL SHINE as the BRIGHTNESS of the FIRMAMENT: and

they that turn many to righteousness AS THE STARS forever."

Other Characteristics

In as much as we will be *begotten* of the FATHER, we will be BETTER THAN THE ANGELS: "Being made *so much better than the angels* for unto which of the angels said He . . . Thou art My son this day have I *begotten* thee?" (Hebrews 1:4-5).

There will be no SEX as we know it in the spirit form: "For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are as the angels of God in heaven." (Matthew 22:30). Also Galatians 3:28: "There is neither Jew nor Greek . . . MALE nor FEMALE: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Yet we shall recognize one another as Mary Magdalene did Jesus (John 20:16).

Our work will be so EFFORTLESS and PLEASANT after our resurrection when we have our NEW BODIES that Paul spoke of it as a REST: "Let us LABOR therefore to enter that REST lest any man should fall after the same example of unbelief." (Hebrews 4:11). We will not have physical handicaps as lameness, blindness or missing members.

Mind of God

Human beings are not born with the mind of God. Here is the kind of *mind* the BIBLE says that we *naturally* have: "For from within, out of the heart of

men [ALL men] proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye. . . ." (Mark 7:21-22). Christ spoke this of the *mind or attitude you and I are born with!*

Why is this? GOD MADE US THAT WAY: "I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing" (Rom. 7:18). "The CARNAL [natural] MIND is enmity against God: for it is NOT SUBJECT TO THE LAW OF God" (Rom. 8:6-7).

YET obedience to the LAW OF GOD is the ONLY WAY *that will bring HAPPINESS!* BUT *God has constructed us* so that we would NOT WANT TO FOLLOW HIS LAWS but our own ways instead.

WHY? So that WE WILL TRY EVERY OTHER WAY OF LIVING and discover that, REGARDLESS of what WE THINK, the only satisfactory WAY is to live and think by the FATHER'S LAWS! This is how we develop the CHARACTER of God—by coming to right knowledge and by acting upon it.

Some of us, becoming discouraged with the ways of living in this world, learn of the true way to live, repent, believe, are baptized and receive the Holy Spirit—we are *begotten* of the Father. By *our own mental efforts* we cannot overcome this NATURAL or CARNAL MIND that we are born with.

BUT God has given us a *part of his*

own self to aid us. If we will nourish this earnest (down payment) of the Spirit which is the nature and mind of God by which we are begotten (II Corinthians 1:22), it will *grow at the expense* of the carnal mind—and will restrain the carnal mind: "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other; so that ye cannot do the thing ye would." "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." (Galatians 5:16-17).

Thus we *acquire* the same mind functioning in our physical brain as was *in Christ* (Philippians 2:5). After this mortal body dies, we will be resurrected with a *spiritual mind* and body if we have grown enough to be born (Romans 8:6). At our birth WE WILL INDEED HAVE THE MIND OF GOD AND CHRIST IN FULL—we will have no mortal mind to bother us any more! It will have perished with the flesh.

All will have ONE MIND then (Philippians 1:27), and God will have COMPLETED his New Testament covenant with us: "I will PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MIND and WRITE THEM IN THEIR HEARTS . . . and they shall not teach every man his neighbor . . . for all shall know me" (Hebrews 8:8-10-11).

"I DELIGHT to do THY WILL, O my God; yea THY LAW IS WITHIN MY HEART" (Psalm 40:8).

How wonderful eternity will be!