

*35 But someone will say,
"How are the dead raised? And
with what kind of body do they come?"*

Merriam Webster of **BODY**:

1. The organized physical substance of an animal or plant either living or dead.
2. A mass of matter distinct from other masses.

Here thoroughly is the inquiring mind of man questioned, and especially so in this instance, where the clear revelation of God is doubted or denied, because the process,

- 1. the how, of the resurrection may not be understood, or**
- 2. the character of the risen body**

Our wisdom is to know the Scriptures, to know His word, without questioning of His power to give bodies meaning.

Chafer's Systematic Theology

Quotes Romans 8:23

for the saints **are redeemed** in this present estate, and yet their **bodies are to be redeemed**— which is similar to the fact that, though they are now raised in Christ, their bodies are **yet to be** raised or changed.

Newell: Romans Commentary

Waiting for our adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body—
The instructed Christian, knowing that his body belongs to the Lord, and is not yet redeemed, longs for, yearns for, groans for that day when his body will be placed in a position of openly acknowledged sonship and glory, even as his spirit now, is. Till that day he cannot be satisfied.

³⁶ *You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies;*

Mindless or stupid, idiot

- The one who raises such questions proves that he is a fool, because he measures the all-powerful and all-wise God by human limitations, and
- he rejects everything that he cannot explain.

- Death must come in before resurrection.
- Death is termination, but death is **not** annihilation.
- The seed as such dies in order to bring forth the plant.

This gives the Christian a unique view of death: Death is a first step, not a final step!

McCalley

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.

The metaphor for burial is that of a seed being sowed in the ground.

McCalley:

The dead body of that saint is laid in the grave, sown: in the resurrection it will come up vastly different, yet with its identity preserved.

But when you bury the body of a saint you bury something very wonderful, because you bury that which has been for years a temple of the Holy Spirit, a sanctified vessel, dedicated as a living sacrifice to God.

C.A.Coates

38 But God gives it a body just as He wished, and ^{Gen 1:11} to each of the seeds a body of its own.

Genesis 1:11 (NASB)

11 Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit after their kind with seed in them"; and it was.

God gives the seed a body that accords with His sovereign will
McCalley

Man can put the seed in the ground, but man cannot make it grow, even less can man give it a body according to his determination.

C.A.C. I thought we might consider what is going to be gathered up in resurrection, and the glory with which God is going to clothe His saints in that world. It would be a very good thing for us to have more faith of resurrection.

C.A.C. We all believe, as Martha did, that the dead will be raised, but has the moral force and importance of it got hold of our souls so as to exert an influence on our every-day lives?

If so, we should be ordering our lives, **not** in view of this present world, but of the resurrection world. A great deal depends on whether we are living in view of this age, or the age to come. You cannot live for the age to come except in the faith of resurrection.

³⁹ All 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.

Concerning the transformation that comes by resurrection, there are four contrasts drawn:

- (a) *that sown*—note this significant synonym for the word *burial*—*in corruption is raised in incorruption.*
- (b) *that sown in dishonor, or humiliation, is raised in glory;*
- (c) *that sown in weakness is raised a powerful body; and*
- (d) *that sown as a natural body—adapted to the soul—is raised a spiritual body, i.e. adapted to the human spirit.*

Chafer's Systematic Theology - Volume 4: Ecclesiology; Eschatology.

⁴⁰ *There are also **heavenly bodies** and **earthly bodies**, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another.*

There are bodies of a **heavenly order** —which at present we know so little.

There are bodies of an **earthly order**, which we know pretty well.

Because God put His glory in everything He created, His creation manifests a different facet of His glory that is observable in every individual thing He created.

***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. **42^a** So also [is] the resurrection of the dead.*

The object here is not to prove different degrees of glory in heaven, as thought by many ancient people and modern people as well, **but rather to contrast the risen with the natural condition.**

The glory of a perishable mortal human body is much less than that of an imperishable immortal human body. Also the differing glory of the heavenly bodies argues for differences among glorified believers.

Constable



My Savior's Love (318: 1,3,4)

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how He could love me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain:

*How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be.
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!*

My Savior's Love (318: 1,3,4)

He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them His very own.
He bore the burden to Calv'ry,
And suffered and died alone.

Refrain:

*How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be.
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!*

My Savior's Love (318: 1,3,4)

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see.
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me.

Refrain:

*How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be.
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!*