

YOU IN THE MILLENNIUM

A study of Chapter 5

1 Corinthians 15:51—Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—

BibleRef.com—All born-again believers will experience change when they step into eternity. The living will be transformed, along with those who are resurrected from the dead. All believers will be physically remade into their glorified bodies at the return of Christ.

YOUR BODY—UPGRADED

1. You will receive it the moment you _____, or are caught up to heaven at the Rapture.

2 Corinthians 5:1-4—¹ Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

At no time will humans exist as disembodied spirits.

2. It will be _____ body, not another body.

1 Corinthians 15:52—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Romans 8:11—And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

John MacArthur—Our resurrected bodies as believers will have a continuity with the bodies we have now. Our bodies will die and they will change form, but they will still be *our* bodies.

3. It will be _____ to disease, degeneration, and death.

1 Corinthians 15:53—For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

1000 Years—In your immortal body, you will never experience physical suffering, sickness, or infirmity, but will enjoy perfect health and vitality forever. (p. 73)

4. Any physical disabilities or abnormalities present in your mortal body will be _____.

Isaiah 35:5-6—⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

5. It may possess the same supernatural characteristics as _____ resurrected body.
Philippians 3:20-21—²⁰ . . . the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ . . . will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.
6. Unbelievers' bodies will presumably undergo some type of transformation also, in order to enable them to live forever in _____.

YOUR NEW NATURE

Along with your new body, you will also receive a renewed _____, which will dynamically impact how you think and behave.

1. Any flaws in your _____ or temperament will be erased forever.

J. I. Packer—The bodies Christians possess now are at best poor tools for expressing the desires and purposes of regenerate hearts, and many of the weaknesses with which the saints struggle—shyness, shortness of temper, lust, depression, coolness in relationships, and so on—are closely linked with our physical constitution and its patterning in our behavior. The bodies that become ours in the general resurrection will be bodies that perfectly match our regenerate characters and will prove perfect instruments for our holy self-expression throughout eternity.

2. Your _____ that craves sin will disappear forever when your body is transformed.

This truth is described in the Bible as the _____ of our bodies (Romans 8:23). Our spirit is redeemed (made free of sin) the moment we are born again, but our bodies will not receive redemption until we enter eternity.

Paul describes the battle with his unredeemed flesh in Romans 7:15-25 (NASB)—¹⁵ For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do*, but I am doing the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ But if I do the very thing I do not want *to do*, I agree with the Law, *confessing* that the Law is good. ¹⁷ So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good *is* not. ¹⁹ For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. ²⁰ But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. ²¹ I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. ²² For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, ²³ but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin.

1000 Years—Try to envision never experiencing the daily battle with temptation that relentlessly occupies our waking hours today. You will never fail to please God in any way, because the very idea of disobedience to His commands will not occur to you. Besetting sins that you wrestle with now will not attract you at all then. Imagine what a delightful and refreshing feeling of total liberation that will bring! (p. 78)

YOUR ABILITIES

Your mind will be _____, and enabled to handle whatever responsibilities Christ assigns to you.

Isaiah 55:9—“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

1 Corinthians 13:12—Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

Our present minds could not comprehend full knowledge now if it were disclosed to us, but our renewed minds will have that capability.

1000 Years—Your glorified body will be equipped with incredible abilities that we cannot even imagine now, and you will need such abilities in order to function in the roles assigned to you by Christ. One of the many blessings enjoyed by resurrected believers in the Millennium will be the gift of leadership, for as we have already seen, believers in their glorified bodies will be entrusted with high positions of authority over cities and territories as rewards for their faithfulness to Christ in this life. Supernatural aptitudes will be required in order for glorified believers to oversee commerce, manage governmental affairs, and carry out other duties under the headship of Christ. Your intellect will likely be greatly increased, and you will be blessed with supernatural wisdom that equips you to discharge your responsibilities. (p. 78)

YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

1. In eternity, you will not remain _____ to your present spouse, or become married if you are now single.

Luke 20:34-36—³⁴ Jesus replied, “The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. ³⁵ But those who are considered worthy of taking part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, ³⁶ and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection.”

Randy Alcorn—The one-flesh marital union we know on Earth is a signpost pointing to our relationship with Christ as our bridegroom. Once we reach the destination, the signpost becomes unnecessary. That one marriage—our marriage to Christ—will be so completely satisfying that even the most wonderful earthly marriage couldn't be as fulfilling.

2. You will have perfect _____ with every other resurrected believer.

John MacArthur—If having such a deep relationship with your spouse here is so wonderful, imagine how glorious it will be to enjoy a perfect relationship with every human in the whole expanse of heaven—forever!

1000 Years—More than anything else, heaven, the Millennium, and eternity beyond it will center upon our presence with Jesus. All the earthly relationships we leave behind will pale in comparison with the incomparable joy of spending eternity in the presence of Christ. No other relationship in heaven or on earth could come close to matching our blessed union with our Lord Jesus. (p. 81)



Before the next Session, read Chapter 6