**The Resurrection Body**

**35** But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” **36** You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. **37** And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. **38** But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. **39** For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. **40** There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. **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** So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. **43** It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. **44** It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. **45** Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”;[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15&version=ESV#fen-ESV-28747e)] the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. **46** But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. **47** The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. **48** As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. **49** Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15&version=ESV#fen-ESV-28751f)] also bear the image of the man of heaven.

**Mystery and Victory**

**50** I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. **51** Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, **52** in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. **53** For this

perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. **54** When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”
**55** “O death, where is your victory?
 O death, where is your sting?”

**56** The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. **57** But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**58** Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

**Westminster Confession – Chapter 32**

**The Condition of Man after Death and the Resurrection of the Dead**

1. After death the bodies of human beings decompose and return to dust,1 but their souls, which do not die or sleep, have an immortal existence and immediately return to God who created them.2 The souls of the righteous are then perfected in holiness and are received into the highest heavens, where they behold the face of God in light and glory and wait for the full redemption of their bodies.3 The souls of the wicked are thrown into hell, where they remain in torment and complete darkness, set apart for the great day of judgment.4 Scripture recognizes only these two places, and no other, for souls separated from their bodies.

1. Gn 3.19, Acts 13.36.
2. Lk 23.43, Eccl 12.7, Phil 1.23, 2 Cor 5.6-8.
3. Heb 12.23, 2 Cor 5.1,6,8, Phil 1.23, Acts 3.21, Eph 4.10, 1 Jn 3.2, Lk 16.23, Rom 8.23.
4. Lk 16.23-24, Acts 1.25, Jude 6-7, 1 Pt 3.19, 2 Pt 2.9.

2. Those who are alive at the last day will not die but will be changed.5 At that time all the dead will be raised with the very same bodies and no other than the same bodies they had before, although with different characteristics, which will be united again to their souls forever.6

5. 1 Thes 4.17, 1 Cor 15.51-52.
6. Jb 19.26-27, 1 Cor 15.42-44.

3. By the power of Christ the bodies of the unjust shall be raised to dishonor, but by his Spirit the bodies of the just will be raised to honor and be made according to the pattern of his own glorious body.7

7. Acts 24.15, Jn 5.28-29, 1 Cor 15.42, Phil 3.21.