Heaven, Hell and the **Christian Hope**

Called to HOPE! Ephesians 4:4

...having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept,

acts 24:15



...having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a **resurrection** of both the just and the unjust.

acts 24:15

And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king!

acts 26:6-8

Why is it thought incredible by any of you that **God raises the dead?**

acts 26:6-8



WE WILL RISE! Jesus' Resurrection and Ours

Jesus: the firstfruits of resurrection

[God] commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.

acts 17:30-31

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, **the firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.

1 corinthians 15:20, 23

And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

colossians 1:18

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

romans 8:29

We will be raised the way Jesus was raised.

So how was Jesus raised?

Jesus was raised bodily.

"Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

luke 24:38-43

And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

luke 24:38-43

They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them.

luke 24:38-43

Our hope: bodily resurrection

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** through his Spirit who dwells in you.

romans 8:11

Our hope is not to be set free from the body

Our hope is not to live as disembodied spirits in an immaterial world.

Our resurrected bodies

There will be both continuity and discontinuity with our current bodies

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"

1 corinthians 15:35-36

You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.

1 corinthians 15:35-36



















So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it s raised in power It s sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.

the body

"sown"

raised

perishable

imperishable

dishonor

glory

weakness

power

the body

"sown"

raised

natural ψυχικός (psukikos)

spiritual πνευματικός (pneumatikos)



orientation of the body

"sown"

raised

natural ψυχικός (psukikos) **spiritual** πνευματικός (pneumatikos)

soulish

spiritual

The **natural** person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are **spiritually** discerned.

1 corinthians 2:14

I tell you this, brothers: **flesh and blood** cannot inherit
the kingdom of God, nor does **the perishable** nherit the
imperishable.

For this **perishable** body must put on the **imperishable**, and this **mortal** body must put on **immortality**.

There will be both continuity and discontinuity with our current bodies

We will be like Christ's resurrected, human, glorious body.

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

philippians 3:20-21

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

1 john 3:2-3

And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

1 john 3:2-3

Implications of our resurrection

Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 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.

For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

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." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

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

Therefore, my beloved brothers,

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.

