

AN IMPERISHABLE, IMMORTAL, PERFECT AND POWERFUL BODY

I. THE WHOLE GOSPEL – JUSTIFIED, SANCTIFIED AND GLORIFIED – Romans 8:28-30

We are not complete yet - we are not yet glorified. And no believer, past or present, physically dead or physically alive, is glorified. But when Christ returns, then you'll be perfect in every way – physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17, 5:23-24

II. THERE ARE MANY REASONS FOR CHRIST'S RETURN, BUT ONE OF THE MAIN ONES IS THAT YOU'LL BE GLORIFIED, YOU'LL BE COMPLETELY SAVED - Job 19:25-27

A. We should be excited about Christ's coming and looking forward to it, for Christ's return not only results in us being glorified, but it also sets in motion so many other things. Isaiah 6:3

B. God wants us to clearly know that Christ's appearing and coming is going to happen, so that we have no question, no doubt that it's going to happen, and are then looking forward to it.

III. BEING A CHILD OF GOD – 1 John 3:1

A. Being a child of God is a special and important way that God shows His love to us. We are sons and daughters of God, and we have a wonderful inheritance! Ephesians 1:14

B. We are not just servants of God, soldiers of Christ, saints of God, workers for Christ, but we are children of God, both a wonderful title and a wonderful truth. Romans 8:14-17

C. At this point in time, we have not fully seen the greatness of God's love, for our salvation is not yet complete. But when we are fully saved, in heaven, and with Jesus we are going to be so excited, so happy, so filled with joy, and so thankful! Revelation 7:10

IV. WE ARE GOING TO BE LIKE JESUS CHRIST – 1 John 3:2

A. We are going to be like Christ. We will have a human body, a glorified and perfect body, just like Christ. We will be sinless, just like Christ. We will be immortal, just like Christ. We will be able to communicate perfectly, just like Christ. We will be full of energy, just like Christ.

B. But we are not Christ. He is the Creator, and we are the creatures. He is the Lord, and we are His servants. He is the teacher, and we are His students. He knows everything – we will not know everything. And Christ gets all the glory, and we are the ones to give Him glory. Jesus Christ, then, is both God and man, and we are but men.

C. Because we are similar, and have so much in common, then we will have this perfect relationship with Christ - we will love each other, talk with each other and serve together.

V. WE ARE NOT THERE YET, WE ARE NOT LIKE CHRIST YET

A. We are not there physically – we get tired, we get weak, we get sick, we get hurt. This is to humble us, to cause us to look to the Lord for His strength, and to cause us to look forward to that day when we will get our new and glorious body.

B. We are not there relationally - there is still selfishness, pride, anger, division, and disagreement; and there is not perfect communication.

C. We are not there mentally, in our thinking. We don't have the knowledge, we forget, we get lazy, we get distracted, and we still think about sinful things.

D. We are not there emotionally. In our soul, in our feelings and emotions, we get sad, we get discouraged and depressed, we get afraid, and we get angry.

E. We are not there in our relationship with God. We don't always love God, don't always meditate on God's Word, don't always walk in the Spirit, and don't always trust God. But God is so merciful, kind and patient with us, and faithful. Nehemiah 9, 2 Timothy 2:13

VI. REMEMBER, YOU ARE ONLY IN THE INITIAL STAGE OF YOUR ETERNAL LIFE

A. No matter what is happening now, know that soon all things will change - Revelation 21:4-5. The next part of your life will soon begin and you will be perfect forever – you'll have a perfect body, perfect relationships, and you'll perfectly love God and every person - Psalm 145:1-2

B. But for now, set your hope on the future; know that life on earth is short; know that you still have work to do; know that while you live in your body that God will give you all the grace and peace that you need; know that Christ will come back soon; and know that when Christ comes back that everything will change. Psalm 47

IF I GO AND PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU,
I WILL COME AGAIN AND RECEIVE YOU TO MYSELF,
SO THAT WHERE I AM, THERE YOU MAY ALSO BE. John 14:3

1. What is the main thing that you believe God wants you to learn from this lesson?
2. Being a child of God means what to you?
3. What is the hardest thing for you in this life? Do you think about how it will all change someday?
4. How does hoping in the future help you to live in the present?
5. When we talk about the whole gospel what does that mean to you?
6. What are some of the main things that will be taking place after Christ returns?
7. How are you going to be like Jesus Christ? How will you not be like Him?