

Resurrection Bodies at Jesus' Return

At death a Christian's soul is made perfect and enters the **intermediate state.**

The Christian's body goes into ground like seed (1 Corinthians 15:35ff).

1 Corinthians 15:35-38

35 But someone may ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?" **36** How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

37 When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. **38** But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. (NIV)

Resurrection Bodies at Jesus' Return

At death a Christian's soul is made perfect and enters the **intermediate state**.

The Christian's body goes into ground like seed (1 Corinthians 15:35ff).

It stays there until Jesus' return.

What happens when Jesus returns?

Every Christian's body will be raised, transformed and reunited with its soul.

Every Christian alive when Jesus returns will have his/her soul & body transformed.

What happens when Jesus returns?

Every non-Christian's body will be raised and reunited with its soul to join other non-Christians to be sentenced to eternal punishment in Hell.

John 5:29 ...those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. (NIV)

Glorification speaks of a Christian's **final state** when (s)he becomes a sinless creature in a deathless body at Jesus' **second coming**.

Glorification is associated with the second resurrection.

Being *born again* is the *first* (spiritual) resurrection (John 5:24-27).

John 5:24 - 27 ²⁴"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. ²⁵ I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. ²⁷ And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. (NIV)

Glorification is associated with the second resurrection.

Being *born again* is the *first* (spiritual) resurrection. (John 5:24-27)

Being *glorified* is the *second* (bodily) resurrection.

(John 5:28-29 & Revelation 20:5)

John 5:28 & 29 "Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out--those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. (NIV)

Revelation 20:5 (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. (NIV)

A Christian's salvation is not complete
until glorification.

All Christians enter glorification
together.

(1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

1 Corinthians 15:51 & 52

**⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed--
⁵²in 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.
(NIV)**

Characteristics of our New Resurrection Bodies

Generally: A Christian's resurrection body will be like Jesus' resurrection body (Philippians 3:21).

Philippians 3:21

who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. (NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

1. imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:42)

1 Corinthians 15:42

So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable;
(NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

1. imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:42)

2. raised in glory (1 Corinthians 15:43; Exodus 34:35; Matthew 13:43, 17:2)

1 Corinthians 15:43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; (NIV)

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Exodus 34:35 they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the LORD. (NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

1. imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:42)

2. raised in glory (1 Corinthians 15:43; Exodus 34:35; Matthew 13:43, 17:2)

Matthew 13:43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. (NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

1. imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:42)

2. raised in glory (1 Corinthians 15:43; Exodus 34:35; Matthew 13:43, 17:2)

Matthew 17:2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. (NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

1. **imperishable** (1 Corinthians 15:42)

2. **raised in glory** (1 Corinthians 15:43; Exodus 34:35; Matthew 13:43, 17:2)

3. **raised in power** (1 Corinthians 15:43)

1 Corinthians 15:43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; (NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

- 1. imperishable** (1 Corinthians 15:42)
- 2. raised in glory** (1 Corinthians 15:43; Exodus 34:35; Matthew 13:43, 17:2)
- 3. raised in power** (1 Corinthians 15:43)
- 4. spiritual** (1 Corinthians 15:44; Luke 24:36-43)

1 Corinthians 15:44

**it is sown a natural body, it is raised
a spiritual body. If there is a natural
body, there is also a spiritual body.
(NIV)**

Luke 24:36-43 ³⁶While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." ⁴⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate it in their presence. (NIV)

Specifically, a Christian's resurrection body will be:

- 1. imperishable** (1 Corinthians 15:42)
- 2. raised in glory** (1 Corinthians 15:43; Exodus 34:35; Matthew 13:43, 17:2)
- 3. raised in power** (1 Corinthians 15:43)
- 4. spiritual** (1 Corinthians 15:44; Luke 24:36-43)
- 5. recognisable**

Recognisable Resurrection Bodies

Psalm 73:25 does not teach that Christians will not recognise each other in glory.

Other Scriptures teach that Christians
will recognise each other in glory:

Mary recognised the risen Lord.
(John 20:14-16, 18)

John 20:14-16, 18

¹⁴At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ...¹⁸Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her. (NIV)

Other Scriptures teach that Christians
will recognise each other in glory:

Mary recognised the risen Lord.
(John 20:14-16, 18)

The disciples recognised the risen Lord.
(John 20:19-20)

John 20:19 & 20

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. (NIV)

Other Scriptures teach that Christians will recognise each other in glory:

Mary recognised the risen Lord.
(John 20:14-16, 18)

The disciples recognised the risen Lord.
(John 20:19-20)

The Emmaus disciples recognised the risen Lord. (Luke 24:30-32)

Luke 24:30

³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (NIV)

Recognition of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
at the Heavenly feast
(Matthew 8:11)

Matthew 8:11

I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

(NIV)

Recognition of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
at the Heavenly feast
(Matthew 8:11)

Recognition of Moses and Elijah at
the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:3)

Matthew 17:3

**Just then there appeared before them
Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.**
(NIV)

Recognition of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
at the Heavenly feast
(Matthew 8:11)

Recognition of Moses and Elijah at
the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:3)

Missionaries recognising the fruit of
their labour in glory
(1 Thessalonians 2:19-20)

1 Thessalonians 2:19 & 20

19For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? **20**Indeed, you are our glory and joy. (NIV)

Recognition of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
at the Heavenly feast
(Matthew 8:11)

Recognition of Moses and Elijah at
the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:3)

Missionaries recognising the fruit of
their labour in glory
(1 Thessalonians 2:19-20)

Paul assured those grieving they
would see Christian loved ones again.
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18

¹³ Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. ¹⁴ We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵ According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage each other with these words. (NIV)

Conclusion – A Certain Hope

It is impossible for glorification not to happen.

Romans 8:30

And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.