

1Corinthians 18-12-30a

Good morning, welcome to the Sunday morning services at Grace and Truth Bible Church on this extremely chilly morning. It's great to see everyone here. So Warmly dressed. We're going to continue Our study in 1st Corinthians picking up in chapter 15 looking at the resurrection. It's a wonderful topic for this time of year. Yeah, so you can be turning there and we will. As is our custom begin by asking God's blessing on our fellowship and our time to study. By going to the Lord in prayer. Father we are grateful especially at this time of the year for the gift of your son the Lord Jesus who came and lived in our world was embodied in human flesh and was subject to the vagaries that we all experience and yet he Through faith through the presence and power of your word was fully obedient and accomplished all of your will. Living it working and ministering among us yet without sin and was qualified to be our substitute as the propitiation for sins not just for ours, but for the sins of the whole world and as such we are now free to Choose life with you in a relationship with you and to Be granted the even greater gift of eternal life.

We pray that as we study this portion of your word this morning that Teaches us about that life that your Holy Spirit will illuminate the Concepts and make them real and pertinent for us strengthen us and encourage us so that we can Fulfill your will for us individually and collectively and be prepared for that life when it comes. As your son Jesus returns to take us to himself and present us before your throne. We pray these things in Jesus name Amen. It's been a little while since we looked at this. I want to pick up in the middle of the chapter you remember what preceded it that there This treatment of the resurrection is extensive it is comprehensive it is detailed and it answered questions and Challenges that have been raised in the Corinthian Church. We have those questions and challenges today. There is widespread disbelief in anything. After this life, it's the same in ancient Greece people who think they're so modern with this thinking are actually moving smartly backward the world generally came to understand the presence of God and the Power of God to raise us from the dead in earlier centuries in Western civilization. But of course, we're too smart for that.

So we've been enlightened. We've been illuminated and now as a culture and as a Philosophy it is generally Thought that we're nothing but material well Paul Recognized that this was a challenge to those who lived in Corinth and that they heard this same sort of argumentation. So he answers it in this section of his letter. But for us we're not in need of being reconvinced that there is a God or that there is a resurrection or that the Lord Jesus is the Son of God and declared to be so by the resurrection from the dead or That it is accomplished in the power of the Holy Spirit. These things are familiar to us but the details of the resurrection are of intensest interest to us and it's a fun topic to research in Scripture because We're none of us Experienced nor do we know anybody experienced with being on the other side? you see all of the flurry that takes place when a child or somebody that's been Got paddle marks on their chest from being resuscitated in the hospital Comes back and claims to have been there and to have seen things and and to have come back. There's been whole songs written about Lazarus. Just fantasy of what

he talked about after Jesus raised him and Well, what did you see? What was going on there? What was it like and well This is all nonsense because Lazarus didn't see anything He was asleep when he woke up.

He had no more experience of the eternal future than you or I do when we wake up and That's why among other reasons there's nothing in the Bible about Lazarus saying well I saw Abraham Martin and John or Abraham Isaac and Jacob or Anybody else over there? Samuel when he came back and startled the witch of Endor he didn't say Why did you bring me up I was busy sampling the glories of Heaven and you've dragged me back down to this dark and dismal earth The future for us is future and the only time there is Insight into it is when God the Holy Spirit reveals it John in Revelation Sees things to come Paul was given Revelation of the mysteries the Lord Jesus of course knew where he had come from and where he was returning to But we find this all very fascinating because the only insight you're going to get that is true And that is valid is in God's Word not from some kid and his father who write a book and sell Tens of millions of copies and then fess up that it was a fabrication as happened recently But this is a true witness and we have it detailed here So it's fascinating to look at what is the resurrection going to be like? and There's a purpose not just in satisfying our curiosity, but also in Defending the Viability of this belief many times people say you believe in resurrection because you're afraid of death You need a crutch to get through life You you want to cling to some grasping hope of Reuniting with loved ones and so on and and you're weak because you believe this Because you you know you're you're grasping at at something to ease the harsh realities We are the the strong we we face we stare out into the void and shake our fist at it before we crumble to dust and you know people want to picture themselves as the Superior stronger better people and want to Dismiss and diminish anyone who believes God's Word Well of course we're not greatly troubled by this most of us at this point in life because I Couldn't give a hoot in a rain barrel what somebody thinks about the basis for my faith But what Paul does and and what we do often in? Interaction with the world is Not necessarily to convince Others that this is the only way to believe but to defend that it is at least as equally reasonable and viable It's a shame that young people today are Told that you can't be scientific. You can't be knowledgeable. You can't be aware you can't be objective you can't be as a strong and balanced person and believe in Myths and fables from some old Hebrew book that was written a long time ago by goat herds There's something wrong with you The Greeks said the same thing when Paul was preaching the resurrection in Athens That he was mocked Tells us that in Acts it says some mocked him while others said we will hear more of this matter Preaching the resurrection divides those who hear it But the fact that there were philosophers who did not mock and said we want to hear more Tells us that it is valid to defend the reasonability of our faith We can do it and we should do it don't leave the world with the Younger generations and all All of the Argumentation it is valid to defend the reasonability of our faith.

You don't have to convince or persuade Just simply establish that knowledgeable reasonable People Have no trouble believing this and have not had trouble with it for centuries So let's take a

look at how Paul answered the very same sorts of opposition in his day He gives the argument in the first half of the chapter that we've already seen in great detail But he says beginning at verse 20 now Christ is risen from the dead and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep For since by man came death by man also came the resurrection of the dead For as in Adam all die even so in Christ all shall be made alive But each one in his own order Christ the firstfruits afterward those who are Christ's at his coming Those who are Christ's at his coming now, which coming is he talking about? How many comings are there? Well, this is a subject of debate, but without going into great detail. We understand that there are two comings There is the coming in the air described in Thessalonians We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed in a moment in a twinkling of an eye At the last Trump there will be the Voice of the Archangel and the Trump of God the dead in Christ shall rise first Then we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall Be gathered with them in the air to meet the Lord in the air. So shall we ever be with the Lord? Well when it says they who are Christ's at his coming we know which coming this is by who it is that is said to be raised and it's it's a You will raise eyebrows if you say this in polite company, but the Old Testament Saints are not Christ's Moses is not Christ's Daniel is not Christ's Name your Old Testament party David himself is not Christ's Who belongs to Christ? He talks about it in the Upper room prayer and so on it is the ones the Father has given to him It is his body.

It is the church look at the end of Ephesians chapter 1 So they who are Christ's raised at his coming This is talking about the resurrection of his body the church those who belong to him he is the head of all things to the church, which is his body and We've been through that extensively in Ephesians chapter 1 so in Christ all shall be made alive, but each one in his own order Christ the firstfruits afterward those who are Christ's at his coming. This is what we call the rapture this is the first of the of the two comings that you find at the end of this age Separated by seven years the tribulation then comes the end and Paul is not giving a detailed eschatological picture that includes the rapture the tribulation the two witnesses the Return of Christ at Armageddon the resurrection of the Old Testament Saints described in Daniel 12 1 and 2 he glosses over all of that and As the old saw goes Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence the fact that Paul doesn't talk about it doesn't mean it isn't there Scripture often skips over Details that are not pertinent in the moment. This is why we need the whole Council of Scripture the whole witness of the Word of God to Turn this in every different light and and understand the whole Package so then the end when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father.

He hasn't even talked about the Millennial Kingdom He skips over a thousand years here without comment. He just says then the end and he and he means When you're thinking about this in terms of what matters to church age believers It is the resurrection of Christ It is our own resurrection and it is our ultimate and final entrance into the kingdom of the Father You see the view here He doesn't want to take up a bunch of distracting details that aren't pertinent to his point his point is The life that has been given to us was first given to Christ We will receive it and its purpose is to get us into the kingdom of the Father We don't stop short in this life We don't

even stop short in the Millennial Kingdom The goal and the purpose of the eternal life that is given to us in Christ is the kingdom of the Father Then comes the end and this end is just like it is in English It often means purpose then comes the fulfillment of the purpose The end justifies the means well, this is the end this is the goal this is the destination Christ is going to deliver the kingdom to God the Father When he puts an end to all rule and all authority and power all rule all authority and power Now, how is he? What what rule authority and power is he putting it into? It says all all rule authority and power, well, he doesn't put an end to his own rule authority and power So what is the rule authority and power that prevails here that is going to be gone? When we go to the kingdom of the Father There is rule authority and power that exists now and is going to continue to exist To and through the Millennial Kingdom and will not cease until the kingdom of the Father What Rule authority and power is that Well, you can answer that question by some of your resident knowledge Who is the ruler and authority of this world? Satan What happens to Satan at the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and the inception of the Millennial Kingdom Is Satan cast into the lake of fire at that point? Jesus returns stands on the Mount of Olives Armageddon Blood high as the horse's bridles Picking up the dead for seven or eight months. They're staking out hot spots of nuclear contamination Millennial Kingdom begins All the nations bring their glory to Jerusalem and to the Davidic King sitting on David's throne.

Where is Satan? He's bound and thrown into the bottomless pit What happens when a king is exiled are there people who still think he's the king Does he still think he's the king does he want to go back and take over his old Empire again Why isn't Satan put in the lake of fire at the beginning? He has not yet fully served his purpose and God has a purpose in allowing Satan just like God has a purpose in allowing sin and evil to prevail in This life up to this point. He's got a purpose Satan thinks he's defining his own purpose and his own goal But God has a purpose for Satan and his purpose is not yet fulfilled. So God puts him on ice so to speak I don't know if it's icy in the bottomless pit or not.

I I don't know what the ice would cling to I don't know if he would just become a Sort of a limbo We don't know what's in the bottomless pit nobody's ever Found the bottom of it But he is in some sort of place where there is no traction if there's no bottom You can't stand there and figure a way to get out. So he is held in limbo for a thousand years Then what happens does he escape Does he figure a way out? Does he flap his great cherubic wings and and emerge under his own power What does scripture say? revelation chapter 20 He is released He is released God lets him go why would God do that? if there's you can ask any number of Wonderful Christian brethren how much they would like to bind Satan and how fervently they pray to bind Satan and if they could get him bound They would never turn him loose That's odd to me that no matter how many times they bind him he keeps wriggling free and has to be bound again. Oh God bind Satan if God binds Satan he's going to be bound until God turns him loose.

God turns him loose. Why? He is going to come back out and exert rule authority and power his rule authority and power can be Neutralized but they have not been extinguished. They have not

been eliminated So at the end, this is your Gog Magog rebellion Satan is released.

What is God's purpose in letting him go? He galvanizes by his presence all of the people who have lived Chafing under the authority of the Lord Jesus and the Kings Descended from David in the Millennial Kingdom for a thousand years. They have complied They have submitted but they hate it and When Satan is released they all The terrors in the field start producing their fruit and when they see him they flock to him He's He's the big attraction and they they throw off. Let us throw off his shackles.

Let us You see this portent in the Psalms So what is the end result? you have the gathering together the dividing the exposing if you will of all of these who Never did really accept the Lord Jesus. They're not interested in submission and in recognition and appreciation of God or his son and Satan exposes them They've been living in the light for a thousand years Satan says I've got a darkness over here and men love darkness rather than light because their hearts are evil and their deeds are evil and there they are so then they surround the camp of the Saints and As I've pointed out before if you're gonna surround a thing you pretty much have to have more of you than there is of it You can't surround something that's more numerous and more powerful than you are very easily You've got to have some other advantage terrain or technology or something but if Satan and these who flock to him are able to surround the camp of the Saints at the end of the Millennial Kingdom the camp Of the Saints is going to be Jerusalem and its environs the Millennial Israel and it is going to be compassed about This is like okay. We get another chance.

It's the Second World War instead of the First World War We got defeated the first time, but we've been seething and simmering and quietly building up our Strategy it's all unleashed and now you've got Zion and those in its periphery surrounded But fire comes out from God and they are all incinerated Everyone ends up being Cast into a lake of fire and at that point Satan is cast into the lake of fire the Millennial Kingdom is over Satan is cast into the lake of fire the beast and the false prophet are in the lake of fire All those whose names are not found written in the book are cast into the lake of fire Are cast into the lake of fire they're judged according to their works and cast in now rule authority and power have been Eliminated and this Paul Spiritually Prophetically eschatologically jumps all the way to that point He delivers the kingdom to God the Father when he puts an end to all rule all authority and power For he must reign until he has put all enemies under his feet notice In verse 24 he's delivering the kingdom to God the Father God the Father is going to reign in the kingdom of God the Father And it makes sense Paul says in verse 25 Christ must reign Until all these things are put under his feet as a very rough analogy Do you remember that? When David came to the throne David had to reign and rule and be a man of war and a man of blood until all of the surrounding Threats and enemies were neutralized were defeated their rule authority and power was taken out of the equation Then what happened David turned the kingdom over to Solomon? Now that it's it's a not a real good comparison because Solomon is David's son in this case It's the reverse the son is going to turn over the kingdom to the father this would be as though Shlomo had been the man of war and And David had been the man of

peace and his son went out and conquered it and then handed the kingdom to his father this Says that Jesus must reign Christ must reign until he has put all enemies under his feet Now verse 26 the last enemy that will be destroyed is death Last enemy that will be destroyed is death. What are the three categories of enemy? rule authority and power so there is a power of death and Satan has the power of death interestingly Him who had the power of death is Defeated and the last enemy to be destroyed is death. There will be no more death After the Millennial Kingdom there is death in it.

There is death at the judgment that follows it ie the second death But after that there is no more death there will be no further Entry into the lake of fire there will be no further loss of individuals After that the last enemy that will be destroyed is death He says in 27 God has put all things under his feet But when he says all things put under him it is evident that he doesn't put himself Under there is a higher authority even than Christ and that is God the Father So when all things are made subject to Christ the Son in verse 28 Then the Son himself will also be subject to him who puts all things under him that God may be all in all and this of course is how Things stood before human history began before the angels fell and so on So we then covered this section 29 through 34 in great detail about what it means to be baptized for the dead to be motivated by their example and enter into faith and Paul's afflictions and So we pick up this morning in verse 35. This is another challenge issued by the culture It is okay to answer challenges issued by the culture In or outside the church some will say how are the dead raised up and with what body do they come? This is two separate questions How are the dead raised up and with what body do they come? foolish one what you so is not made alive until or unless it dies and What you so you do not so that body that shall be but mere grain perhaps wheat or some other seed But God gives it a body as he pleases and to each seed its own body All Flesh is not the same flesh But there is one kind of flesh of men another flesh of animals another of fish and another were birds there are celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies But the glory of the celestial is one and the glory of the terrestrial is another one glory of the Sun another glory the moon another glory of stars Star differs from another star in glory So also is the resurrection of the dead It is sown in corruption it is raised in incorruption it is sown in dishonor it is raised in glory It is sown in weakness. It is raised in power.

It is sown a natural body It is raised a spiritual body there is a natural body and there is a spiritual body Well before we even get through all of this we can ask ourselves. What is a spiritual body? Is this a Conceptual resurrection are we immaterial or what what is a spiritual body So it is written first man became a first man Adam became a living being the last Adam became a life-giving spirit However, the spiritual is not first But the natural and afterward the spiritual the first man was of the earth made of dust the second man is the Lord from heaven And You'll notice there's a text note there that the Lord Is not found in in some manuscripts, which I would consider to be the better manuscripts The first man was of the earth the second man is from heaven and somebody just put in parentheses in their copy The man from heaven is the Lord lest there be any doubt As was the man of dust so also are those made of dust as is the heavenly so are those Heavenly

and as we have borne the image of the dust we shall also bear the image of the heavenly you see all the italics They're seeking to make that more clear well, this is of Intensest interest to us we would like to know details What's it going to be like? What is what has God prepared for those who love him Well, let's begin with what Paul tells us What you sow is not made alive unless it dies This is verse 36 Don't be foolish What is sown does not Get life it's not made alive unless it dies And what you sow you do not sow the body that shall be but mere grain So the point here being that seed doesn't resemble the plant that is going to spring up once it germinates but the first thing I want to point out here is of All of the things that Paul could use to approach this subject. He uses the vegetable kingdom he uses grain being sown Now what is the one thing we know about sowing the Bible mentions this If you go out and plant seeds What's the idea? You don't say I've got way too much seed around here.

I'm just gonna bury it and get it out of the way It's not like You know things that won't recycle and so we take them to the landfill and we bury them to get them out of sight What is the notion of sowing a seed? Scripture points this out the sower sows in hope, right? The very act of putting the seed in the ground is an act of expectation. I am confident I wouldn't be putting this in the ground if I didn't have the expectation that there is going to be something new afterward so as soon as Paul says If you're asking these questions, you haven't really thought about it. He says foolish one What you sow is not made alive Unless it dies the seed is not going to Fulfill its potential until you bury it.

That's the idea. So so when you so There is the expectation you wouldn't sow it unless you had the expectation and This is why you know in Christianity and nothing against the cremation per se but in symbolic terms A lot of us like the idea of having our body sown into the ground without any Intermediate act of Compacting it into ash. I don't know that there's Anything particularly intrinsically wrong with that but to fulfill the picture I like I don't want to be cremated I want my body planted.

I want to be in my blues I want to be in a box and I want to go into the ground if I'm not here when the Lord returns Why? Because of this picture. I want anybody that walks by my little six foot deep patch to know that That seed is sown in hope. It's going to come back up I'll be right back Right.

It's like sowing a seed. I don't roast the seed and then plant it That doesn't reflect hope to me But it's a picture there. There's sometimes there's practical reasons that there can be economic reasons nothing intrinsically wrong I've seen anything at all about it.

I know plenty of strong Christians that were cremated and their ashes are In a jug or in the ground or wherever nothing wrong with that but picture wise if you The the last message you can send your family and anybody that knew you or anybody that looks you up somebody that gets interested in genealogy and goes it was a quite interesting for me to go to West Texas and find a cemetery where Hulls from a hundred years ago and more were buried and they're buried.

They're there There's a stone and they their bones rest there in hope. They're all Baptists, they're all believers and they're all coming back and they're all coming back more or less together.

They're grouped They got as close as they could there They're surviving family members put them there saying, you know It'll be great that you all can see each other when you when you rise But the idea of sowing is the first thing Paul introduces As soon as he says don't be a dummy He says what you sow It's necessary to be sown before it can be raised There's there's going to be a big exception that he talks about in Thessalonians He says I'll tell you a secret. We will not all be sown We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed we who are alive and remain Will be caught up together. We will all be changed But the vast vast majority 99 point something percent of church age believers are going to be sown and Then raised so and that's what he's talking about here Not made alive unless it dies and what you so you do not so that body which shall be now this is preparation That what comes back is not necessarily going to look like What you sowed Now I'm not Trying to invent anything.

I'm just looking at what Paul says he says you know what that seed looked like when you planted it You know what came up when it germinated and and had new life. They didn't look the same did they? The seed looks one way the plant looks another but there is a relationship You can easily recognize how do you put a garden right out here not? 50 feet away and You Don't always remember exactly where you sowed particular seeds weeds come up, and you clear them You're you're trying to keep stuff from eating the little things that come up, but you can tell where you planted wheat because why I? Know what a wheat seed looks like and I know what a wheat plant looks like they are related I don't plant wheat and get corn. I don't plant corn and get Asparagus, I don't plant asparagus and get okra I Know what the seeds look like and I know what to expect when they come up, and I recognize it Oh, there's the okra.

There's the snap beans. There's the peas. There's the tomatoes.

There's whatever it is you plant You easily recognize. This is what came from that seed right? There's no real difficulty but if you are Expecting that You plant one seed and up pops the seed like the disciples when they were looking for the Lord Jesus, and they weren't actually even looking for him despite all of his exhortations to wait three days And he'd be back when Jesus received his new life They came to recognize him But this was kind of the you know the first time somebody planted a seed Maybe they weren't real sure what the plant was going to look like if I just handed you seeds And you'd never seen the plant You plant them, and you might not know what's going to come up I've actually done that way found seeds and didn't know what they were we planted them and waited to see what came up Sometimes you may know the the type of plant it may be a particular flower But you don't know if these are the white flowers or the pink flowers or the deep red flowers You plant them and wait to see what comes up, but you have to make the connection And then you learn So what happened here? the Lord Jesus his Human body the one the disciples have been familiar with and his family was familiar with was placed in the grave When he rose to new life There is the connection there is one and only one little or Jesus He

showed them the scars in his hands and in his feet and in his side But they had difficulty recognizing him I saw commentary after commentary talking about well in the resurrection body one thing We know is that that it's it looks the same the disciples recognized Jesus that I saw this in print Four or five or six different times this past week the disciples recognized Jesus. What Bible are you reading? No, they didn't Mary didn't recognize him the disciples didn't recognize him He appeared to them several times and the last time he appeared to them Some doubted They had a hard time making the connection now, this is my concern.

Why would there be difficulty making the connection? The two guys on the road to Emmaus walked with him for hours and didn't recognize him Mary recognized him when he heard when she heard his voice say her name But She didn't recognize him by sight they say oh she was blinded by tears Look, you can have a lot of tears It doesn't make you completely blind you know if you're looking for something and you're trying to find somebody and if you're trying to ask somebody a question you're gonna Look at them and say hey, where have you taken him show me where the body is so that I can go minister to it and and perform these these Respectful ablutions and such she was looking at him and she did not recognize him did not recognize him now Is this a bad thing? Well, it all depends on how you look at it It's actually not because the raised body is You know what happens when the plants they're long enough you plant a wheat seed and You get a wheat stalk and a wheat plant and what eventually happens If you're with it long enough and you look at it long enough. What do you see? you see a Thousand wheat seeds that look exactly like that plant, right? You just got to spend a little time and oh look wheat seeds just exactly like the one that was planted It's identical. It's genetically the same right and But there is a there is a transition time there But it's wheat.

It's the variety of wheat the exact same kind of wheat as the seed was that was planted it is All that was in that seed is now that the entire design of the plant was inside the seed, right? But what was inside the seed what we now know is the genetic map is now Visible all of the body plant of that of that plant was in the seed If you knew that seed well enough and you get down inside it and look at its Genome and had the equipment you could you would know what that plant is because you know the seed You know what kind of plant it produces so it's not going to be a disappointment It is going to be a fulfillment. It is going to be an enhancement. It is going to be That when the disciples saw the resurrected Lord Jesus He was everything that he had been before plus so much more because all of what had been potential and internal was visible and external and manifest and It is it is a fulfillment.

It is a flowering it is a Wonderful enhancement, but the little seed with its potential has to go away for a while And when it comes back it is everything God designed it to be And it is visible and manifest so we look forward to What God is going to do and notice all of this Paul says is God's work. We don't do any of it He doesn't say you don't make the plant alive until you sow the seed He says what you sow is not made alive. It is made alive by God God gives seed the power of germination We simply sow it we put it in a place where God can do his work And this is what we

do with with the Word of God the Word of God is alive and powerful It's our job to sow it to put it into a place where God can Exploit its potential and have it grow and do what it's supposed to do to produce its 30 fold 60 fold and a hundredfold fruit within us Would you only? you remember the these parable of the talents and Jesus says the the master gave the servant a talent.

He wrapped it in a rag and stuck in his pocket If all we did was come back like we are right now That that is in essence what happened you've still got the same one talent you were given well I got it. I stuck it in my pocket. I pulled it back out.

It's the same. What is God's plan I? Want that thing to turn into ten? I wanted to multiply I wanted to manifest but in order to do that it has to be invested It has to be put somewhere where it can do its work Seed has to be put where its potential can be exploited and who does that God? It is changed not by us, but by God Not made alive unless it dies what you so you do not so that body that shall be but mere grain as Great as the grain may be it's mere grain God gives it a body as he pleases Hands up everybody that wants to be displeased with what God is pleased with If God is pleased how pleased are we if this is God's perfection if this is God's will if this is God's work and God does what he pleases with the seed People who love God are going to be infinitely pleased with God's work right whatever it is God does as he pleases and to each seed he gives its own Body the seed is sown in one form God determines what it's going to look like later All flesh is not the same flesh so now Paul is moving from the vegetable kingdom to the Animal kingdom right he's going from plants to flesh Seeds and plants to flesh, but we're going to pause here and take our break, but What is the purpose and what is the point here? people go from disbelieving that there is a God who has the power of Resurrection to saying well even if there is a God and even if there is a resurrection I see all kinds of practical difficulties with it. I'm not going to accept it, and I'm not going to believe it because How how how could you do this the Greeks believed that the Spirit was what counted the they believed that there was a Indefinite immaterial part of man, and they thought that that was the pure that was the you know It's a perverse version of the truth that in the spiritual realm you could achieve purity and that the physical was hopeless And so they said what I do with my body doesn't matter and they justified all kinds of sin this had infected the Corinthian Church Don't worry about how you act because that's all physical Fornicate do whatever you want be abusive to others Doesn't matter because in your spirit you're pure and death to them was a release of the spirit you went to the spirit realm and so they pooh-poohed and and Mocked and dismissed any notion that there would be a body and so they said how can there be this resurrection and and if so? What would it look like? So Paul is answering this in reverse order.

What is it going to look like and and what does this really accomplish? It is necessary that we are not unclothed but clothed upon It's important to be embodied that we're not ethereal. We don't float You're not in a disembodied state scripture says precisely nothing about an interim body This is all you know somebody trying to Make sense of things, but this plays directly into the notion that well There's a great unconsciousness There's a great spiritual existence where you

you just float in a disembodied state Paul says no You're embodied now. You're going to be embodied then and here's exactly how God is going to do it But it is a great hope and comfort for us, and it is a reminder that the deeds done in the body Are written down and they are judged and they determine a lot of what happens in the future Why is there a different glory of different kinds of flesh? Why is there a different glory for different kinds of things in the sky? Well, that's what we are determining now.

What do we focus on? What do we? Prioritize how do we invest? Our time we have a stewardship of time and resources and opportunity. What do we do with it? Just like those talents depending on what you do There is going to be an effect. It is going to be a visible and a consequential effect After death in the resurrection moving through the kingdoms To the ultimate kingdom of the father it makes a difference it is important to think about now death is not the end Death is not even a beginning death is a transition point between What is made potential in this life, and what is fulfilled in the next life? and it is simply the end of the opportunity to create that potential and it is the beginning of living forever with the Consequences, that's what death is it is Leaving one place and going to another and what you did here determines everything here so Paul is not just answering questions.

He's not just refuting the Greeks He is impressing on the Corinthian believers the importance of paying attention to how we live in this body Because what happens in this body? Determines the experience in the environment and the opportunities and the potential reflected glory for the next body so Something to reflect on let's pause here and take our break when we come back. We're going to pick up here in verse 39