

THE NEW BODY

As Christians we are looking for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ who shall change our vile body like unto his glorious body. Thus the manifestation of the sons of God will come to pass at the Day of Christ. The Bible is very clear that we are to receive a changed body from God, in fact God has predestinated us to that end, not for salvation, but rather, for those that have been saved a new changed glorified body awaits us.

In the beginning God created man in his own image and after his likeness, both male and female created he them (Genesis 1:26-27). What is God's image? We know he is invisible for he is a Spirit (John 4:24, 1 Timothy 1:17, Hebrews 11:27). However God has manifested himself in several ways throughout the Bible. God appeared to Abraham as a man (Genesis 18:1-2), and to Jacob as a man (Genesis 32:30). For instance, when Ezekiel saw the glory of the God of Israel, he testified saying, "and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it" (Ezekiel 1:26). He continued saying that he saw brightness round about him (Ezekiel 1:27-28).

Furthermore, we see clearly from God's word that Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15). The Son is the brightness of God's glory and the express image of his person (Hebrews 1:3). In eternity, the saints, whose names are written in the book of life, have no need for the sun, for the glory of God will lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof (Revelation 21:23). The gospel of John declares that Jesus is that Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world (John 1:9). John tells us in his first epistle that God is light and in him there is no darkness (1 John 1:5).

As we can see that the glory of God is brightness, and light, even blinding light, that blinded Saul on the road to Damascus which when a man seeth, hath no choice but to fall on his face and worship. The Lamb is that light, the Lamb is the glory of God. This is what some of the OT saints saw. Though they knew him not as Jesus, for he himself told Jacob when asked by him what his name was responded, Why do you ask what my name is? And again, What is his name, and what is his son's name if thou canst tell? (Proverbs 30:4). They knew him as Jehovah, I am, the Almighty, The LORD of hosts. Now after seeing what the similitude and the likeness and image of God is, now we can start to figure out what Adam may have looked like.

God created man in his own image, after his own likeness. Now we know that man is body, soul, and spirit: and God is Father, Word, and Holy Ghost. We know God's glory is visible, a bright light, even as a consuming fire. The question I ask, did Adam have a body that had glory? The Scripture seems to say so, for David said, What is man, that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, yea, and beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas (Psalm 8:4-8). David here is referring to Adam no doubt. Dominion over the creation is mentioned in Genesis 1. Also we see Paul referencing this Psalm in Hebrews applying it to Jesus,

and rightfully so, for the Last Adam verily has the right to the throne having reconciled all things back unto himself by the shedding of his own blood, Amen. But David points out that Adam was crowned with glory and honour.

In 2 Peter 1:16-18, Peter is speaking about the transfiguration of the Lord Jesus Christ that he, James, and John saw on the holy mount. He said that Jesus received from God the Father honour and glory when he was transfigured. In Matthew 17, Mark 9, and Luke 9 we read about Christ's transfiguration. The Scriptures say that his face did shine as the sun; and his countenance was altered; and his raiment was white as the light; and that his raiment was shining. Amen. What is meant by Jesus Christ receiving honour and glory is referring to his transfiguration. He shined like the sun, and was clothed in a raiment so white, as the light, that did shine. This is what Adam and Eve were like before they sinned. They shone in the garden of Eden. For David clearly wrote in the eighth Psalm that man was crowned with glory and honour by God. In Genesis 2:25, the scriptures tell us the man and his wife were naked but were not ashamed. This is a peculiar passage. When comparing it with Genesis 3:6-11, after they ate of the forbidden fruit, they knew they were naked and tried to make a covering for them of leaves. Could it be that before they sinned they did shine as the sun and therefore could not tell if they were actually naked or not?

In 2 Corinthians 5, we read about the new body which the saints shall receive at the resurrection. Jesus called this a mansion in John 14. Paul says that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens (2 Corinthians 5:1). In his previous epistle to the Corinthians, he states that we will receive a spiritual body, and bear the image of the heavenly (1 Corinthians 15:44-49). Back in 2 Corinthians 5:2-3, he says we are groaning to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven, that we should not be found naked. This house is referring to our new body, which will be a heavenly body. In Romans 8:23, we groan within ourselves waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. You see, our body *must* and *needs* to be changed.

Your flesh is the primary reason why you still sin. Romans 7:5-25 clearly speaks to that truth. Paul said in my flesh dwelleth no good thing. Your problem is your flesh. Our body has been corrupted by sin. The lusts of the flesh, eyes, and pride of life are not of the Father, but are of the world (1 John 2:15-16). In Galatians we read about the works of the flesh: all of which are sinful (Galatians 5:16-21). We are told to put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make *no* provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof. The lusts of the flesh are altogether evil. They are not of the Father. Our natural body is corrupt, and dishonourable, and weak (1 Corinthians 15:42-43). Even Jesus said the flesh profiteth nothing (John 6:63), and the spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak (Matthew 26:41, Mark 14:38). The Scripture goes on to say that to be carnally minded is death, and that the carnal (fleshly) mind is enmity (hostile, enemy) against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. In the flesh you cannot please God. But we are in the Spirit, if the Spirit dwells in us (Romans 8:5-10). Amen.

Do any of you find a war going on in your members that is within your self? We know the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh. They are contrary one to another so you cannot do the things that ye would (Galatians 5:17). If you are saved there is a battle going on within you. The Spirit of God wants you to do and don't do certain things, while the carnal mind and the flesh want you to do and don't do certain things. Your number one problem is you, your flesh. Thank God when we get a new body, we will never sin again!

Lastly, we know for sure that in the resurrection, we shall have white raiment and we shall shine! In Philippians 3:21, the Lord Jesus Christ shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his GLORIOUS BODY. That word glorious there should tell us about a shining, white as wool garment, and a shining face that we shall inherit. In Revelation 3:5, he that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment. In Revelation 7:13-17, tribulation saints are clothed with white robes. Notice their robes are made white in the blood of the Lamb. In Revelation 19:7-9, the bride of Christ has made herself ready and to her it was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. Clearly from these passages, we will be clothed in white raiment, but what about the shining aspect of our heavenly body?

In Daniel 12, it is clear that those that are resurrected to eternal life will shine. Daniel 12:1-4, the Scriptures declare that they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. In Matthew 13:43, at the end of the world, the righteous shall shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Do you see that? But Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:40-42, just as there are different glories of the sun, moon, and stars; and how one star differs from another star in glory, so also is the resurrection of the dead. What do you think this means?

We shall shine like the stars in the firmament, just like Jesus Christ. That is what we shall be like. We shall be clothed in white garment as light, shining as the stars of heaven: in a heavenly body, bearing the image of the heavenly (that is Jesus Christ); remade back into the image of God from which state and glory Adam and Eve fell from in the garden. Never more to sin, never more to die or cry, no more sorrow or pain: God will make all things new. We shall see our God as he is, and see his face. Psalm 17:15, "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

Thus it is written.