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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Series: Theology for Missions

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Date: 2/22/15
1 Cor.15:35-49
File: D150222

SPIRITUAL RESURRECTION BODY

- The Greek Gnostics sought knowledge (gnosis) as the source of emancipation (1 Cor.8:1).
- Jesus taught that truth (aletheia) was the source of emancipation – “You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” (John 8:32)

Once again, Paul opens our lesson text with the Greek debater’s technique of rhetorical questions. This time he added the diatribe device of critical assertions - “But someone (tis/ nsm) will say, ‘**How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?**’” (1 Cor.15:35)

This lesson will study Four aspects of Paul’s logical argument of Spiritual Resurrection Body.

1. Paul addressed someone as fool (aphron/ vocative singular nominative). Notice that fool is singular. He is not addressing all of them only those believers who reject the doctrine of resurrection.

There are several different Greek words for fool. He did not use moria (moron). He was not attacking their character or disability, not even their evil thinking (Matt.5:22; Rom.1:21-23).

Paul used the Greek word **aphon** (without thinking). We might say, “You are out of your mind, if you think that I will do such and such.” “Have you lost your mind? What were you thinking?”

Paul was challenging the logic of their thinking that led to a decision to reject the doctrine of the resurrection.

Paul will address **two basic questions** that posed stumbling block to faith.

- “How are the dead raised?”
- “With what kind of body do they come?”

2. Paul gave three scientific approaches to answer these two questions in (1Cor.15:36-41).

- Law of Botany (1Cor.15:36-38) Day 3 of creation (Gen.1:9-13)
- Law of Zoology (1Cor.15:39) No verb Day 5 -6 (Gen.1:20-31)
- Law of Astronomy (1Cor.15:40-41) No verbs Day 4 (Gen.1:14-19)

Now Paul is ready to apply theology to these illustrations to the doctrine of resurrection. He will do it in the next two points.

Watch for a special Greek phrase that introduces these two theological points (**so also**) (kai houtos) (1Cor.15:42, 45).

3. Paul introduced the first theological point regarding the spiritual resurrection body by the divine law of being sown and raised (1Cor.15:42-44).

<u>Sown by Death</u>		<u>Raised by Resurrection</u>	
Perishable	(phthora)	Imperishable	
Dishonor	(atimia)	Glory	(doxa)
Weakness	(astheneia)	Power	(dunamis)
Natural	(psuchikos)	Spiritual	(pneumatikos)

Do you understand that there is a difference?

4. Paul introduces the second theological point with a reference to the Bible – “So also it is written (grapho/ perf.p.ptc.3ps) (Matt.24:35)” (1Cor.15:45-49) – Two federal heads of the human race.

The second theological point connects the First Adam with death with the Second Adam with Life and the resurrection.

- First Adam represents the unsaved of human race (Rom.5:12-21; 1 Cor.15:22).
- The Last Adam represents the saved of the human race (John 3:16-21, 36; 1 Cor.15:22).

FIRST (protos) ADAM

SECOND (deuteros) ADAM

Natural		Spiritual
Earth	(ge)	Heaven
Earthy	(choikos)	Heavenly
Image	(eikon/ phoreo) [wear]	Image

(1 Cor.15:21) “For since by man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.”

(1 Cor.15:44b) “If (1cc) there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.”

Conclusion: Paul has given us a lot of information regarding the doctrine of the resurrection. Eternal life continues after physical death because of our Position in Christ (2 Cor.5:1-9, 17-21; 1 John 5:11-13).

(1 Cor.15:18) “If we have hope in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.”

(Phil.1:21) “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.” (John 14:1-6)

(1 Cor.15:45b-46) “The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.” (Jude 19; 1 Cor.2:14)

(Ps.116:15) “Precious in the sight of Lord is the death of His godly ones.”