

## **CAUGHT UP INTO PARADISE (Part #2)**

This lesson continues Paul's personal testimony of his experience with Dying Grace from our last study entitled [Caught up into Paradise, \(Part #1\)](#).

(2 Cor.12:2b) "**Whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body** I do not know, God knows – such a man was caught up to the third heaven."

It is understood, when Paul refers to "in the body" he means being physically alive; and "out of the body", physically dead.

Paul said a similar thing in our **lesson text**.

(2 Cor.5:6-8) "Therefore, **being always of good courage**, and knowing that while we are **at home in the body we are absent from the Lord** – for we walk by faith, not by sight – **we are of good courage**, I say, and prefer rather **to be absent from the body and to be at home with Lord**."

Once again, we understand Paul referring to being "**at home in body**" he is referring to being physically alive and being "**absent from the body and to be at home with Lord**" refers to the physical death of one who believes that Jesus died for their sins, was buried and raised on the third day to give them grace salvation (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

**This lesson will address the question, "how did physical life and death become associated with the body?"**

### **1. God is the originator of the human body.**

God fashioned (yatsar) Adam's body out of ground and Eve's body out of a male rib (Gen.2:21-23). Then they were to procreate the human race as God prophetically instructed them to in (Gen.1:27-28) "be fruitful and multiply" [yada formula] (Gen.3:20; 4:1; Hos.9:1).

Without sin and death, their bodies were created to live forever, without aging or dying. But something happened to change it to "sin and death".

### **2. God is the originator of human life.**

(Gen.2:7)" Then the **Lord God** formed (yatsar) man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the **breath of life** (neshamah chayyim) [lives]; and man became a **living being**." (NASB)

Notice that the "breath of life" is plural (chayyim) [lives]. This is important and often missed because of the English singular – mistranslated "breath of life" (Job 12:10; 33:4; 34:14-15; Ps.104:29).

The breath of lives (neshamah chayyim) brings life to the body, soul, and spirit (1 Thess.5:23).

They were created originally to live forever. The physical and spiritual lives were one (1Cor.15:44-47). But something happened to change it to sin and death (1 Cor.15:22; Isa.2:22).

### **3. Adam's violation of God's commandment resulted in the origin of sin and death.**

(Gen.2:17) "But from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die." (muth) [qal infin]; (muth) [qal impf]

Adam transgressed the commandment when he chose to eat from the tree, and as a result sin and death was passed unto the entire human race (Gen.3:6; Rom.5:12-17). Adam lived 930 years in a state of aging and dying after eating from tree (begat) (Gen.5; Matt.1) (KJ).

Because of Adam sin, aging as well as death was passed onto the human race (2 Cor.4:16-18).

The natural and spiritual were separated by Adam's sin and death (Rom.5:12-21; 1 Cor.15:45-49). When we are born again, the natural becomes spiritual because of the Church Age Holy Spirit's ministry. (John 7:37-39; 1 Cor.2:14-3:3; Jude 19; Rom.8:9)

(1 Cor.15:56) "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law."

(1 Cor.15:21-22) "For since by man came death, by man also came the resurrection of the dead. **For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.**"

### **4. As the Last Adam, Jesus Christ came into the world to restore fallen humanity's condition of being born under Adam's curse of "sin and death" (1 Cor.15:45) through the gospel of grace salvation (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).**

Note the contrast between Adam and Jesus Christ in (Rom.5:20-21).

**Personal Study:** (1 Cor.15:22). Pay special attention to the **Great Grace Exchange** (Eph.2:8-9). This is what takes place the moment you believe the gospel of grace salvation ([50 Things FREE](#))

(Rom.5:12) "So that, as sin reigned in death, even so **grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life** through Jesus Christ."

(John 5:24) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My words, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has **passed out of death into life.**"

(1Cor.15:57) "Death is swallowed up in **victory**." (1 Cor.15:54b) "But thanks to God, who gives us **the victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ."

(2 Cor.5:4b) "So that what is moral will be swallowed up by life." (1 Cor.15:53-54)

(John 1:4, 9) "**In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.**"

(John 8:12) "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness. But will have the Light of Life."; Acts 26:18