

## **Biblical Theology**

### **Unit 5: Doctrine of Salvation – Lesson 9: Glorification**

#### **Resurrection**

Definition: Glorification is the final step in the application of redemption. It will happen when Christ returns and raises from the dead the bodies of all believers for all time who have died, and reunites them with their souls, and changes the bodies of all believers who remain alive, thereby giving all believers at the same time perfect resurrection bodies like his own.

#### **1. Salvation is not complete until we have been resurrected.**

- **Romans 8:23-24** – *And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?*
- **Romans 8:17** – *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*
- **1 Corinthians 15:25-26** - *For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.*
- **1 Corinthians 15:54-55** - *When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”*
  
- **Reunion with our physical bodies = final reunion with Christ.**

#### **2. Our resurrection occurs when Christ returns.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:22-23** - *For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.*
- **1 Corinthians 15:51-52** - *Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.*
- **1 Thessalonians 4:13-16** - *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.*

#### **3. Believers and unbelievers will be resurrected.**

- **John 5:28-29** - *For an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.*
- **Acts 24:15-16** - *But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust.*

#### **Glorification**

#### **1. Our glorified bodies will be like Jesus' glorified body.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:20-23** - *But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.*

- **1 Corinthians 15:48-49** - *As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.*
  - **Philippians 3:21** - *who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.*
- 2. Our glorified bodies will possess glory and power.**
- **Daniel 12:3** - *And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.*
  - **1 Corinthians 15:43** - *It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.*
- 3. Our glorified bodies will be imperishable.**
- **1 Corinthians 15:42-44;49** - *So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. 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. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. [49] Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.*
  - **Revelation 21:1-4** - *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."*

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Is the hope of a future resurrection of your body one of the major things you look forward to in the future? Why?
2. What kinds of earthly scenarios can the remembrance of our future glorification bring us hope?
3. Why is our physical resurrection so important to our salvation experience as human beings?