

## The Visible and Invisible Bodies

Some people go to great lengths to keep their body in shape; some do very little and it still seems to work fine for them and then there are people like myself who have done everything under the sun to destroy it.

Over the course of my life I've smoked more cigarettes than one human being should ever smoke, consumed untold amounts of fine Kentucky bourbon and Jameson's Irish whiskey, exercised sporadically, and never really had a weight problem.

I thought I was having a lot of fun while I was doing it but now I've got CAD (cardiovascular arterial disease), COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), high blood pressure, high cholesterol, Afib, and it hurts my shoulder to give a high-five to someone.

People with pretty bodies like to look in the mirror all the time, admiring themselves, checking to see if the hair is just right and if there is any spinach between those two teeth. (Do people really check for spinach?)

But this all changes when we get older. You tend to not look in the mirror as much. At my age I even take a shower with the lights off and I'm the only one in the bathroom.

Wouldn't it be great if we were born with a body that would never get sick, never break a bone, never desire a smoke or a drink and never needed to exercise or lose weight?

Bingo! The good news is you already have one! The bad news is you can't use it just yet. You have to die first.

I think most of us know that we all have a soul and spirit but along with that there is a spiritual body. Angels are in spiritual bodies. The manifestation of God Himself, commonly known as "the angel of the Lord", is a spiritual body.

The incredible thing is this spiritual body looks just like this flesh and blood body that we all walk around in. This is evidenced by the fact that Christ told us that if you have seen Him you have also seen the Father:

*John 14:9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?*

Christ was in a flesh and blood body when He spoke these words to Philip but no man has ever seen the Father, who is in a spiritual body:

*Exodus 33:23 And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.*

The only conclusion that we can make here is that the flesh body looks just like the spiritual body and Jesus Christ looks exactly like the Father! To carry this one step further, Jesus Christ and the Father are one and the same:

*John 10:30 I and my Father are one.*

Let's take another giant step and see that the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are all the same entity:

*1<sup>st</sup> John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*

And this spiritual body can eat food just as this earthly body does:

*Genesis 19:1 And there came **two angels** to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;*

*Genesis 19:2 And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.*

*Genesis 19:3 And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, **and they did eat.***

I always find that amazing. Our Father doesn't go into a lot of detail as to the substance of this spiritual body but it's probably made of just a little different material than this earthly body.

The Israelites found out, as they wandered through the desert, that not only could angels eat our food but that they could eat angels' food as well:

*Exodus 16:14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.*

*Exodus 16:15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, **It is manna:** for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, **This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat.***

Our soul, though unseen, is actually the core of us. This soul, along with our spirit, was created by our Father at the beginning of the first heaven/earth age when He created all souls for His pleasure.

Our soul and spirit will always be with us, and they cannot be separated, no matter which body we are in, earthly or spiritual. Many things can cause this earthly body to die but only our Father can destroy the spiritual body. Our soul can be looked at as our presence for without it we are nothing. We do not exist.

The spirit is our intellect. The brain may store information and cause our voluntary muscles to function but our spirit is the internal force that we use to think with, to reason with. It is our consciousness and conscience, our ability to see what is right and wrong and to choose or act on either one as well. In some cases it's that little voice in our brain that most of us never listen to and if we did we would certainly make a lot of better choices in this life.

The earthly body and the brain may die and disintegrate into the soil but the soul and spirit will remain intact, no matter what, until it goes into paradise and eventually the eternity OR our Father is forced to destroy it due to the decisions we make on our own in this life, for that is the purpose of it all; to decide who we will follow: the laws and commandments of our Father or give in to the temptations of this world, ignore Him, and follow Satan.

Alright. Old Uncle Ned has been around forever, it seems, and old age has finally caught up with him. The bible gives us some really good analogies of this earthly body as it ages and I'm going to give them here for you to read because even if you are many years away from this period of your life it's something that you can bring to mind whenever someone you know is approaching the winter of their life.

They are found in the book of Ecclesiastes:

*Ecclesiastes 12:3 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble,*

The "house" is a reference to the whole body and it's trembling because the legs aren't as strong to stand up on as they used to be.

*and the strong men shall bow themselves,*

Your back is hunched over from years of work and you can no longer stand up straight.

*and the grinders cease because they are few,*

Most of the teeth are gone.

*and those that look out of the windows be darkened,*

The eyes are clouding over and you can't see as well as you used to.

*Ecclesiastes 12:4 And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low,*

It sounds as though everyone is speaking from behind a closed door, it all seems muffled because the hearing isn't very good.

*and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird,*

We didn't used to be but now we're light sleepers, even the chirping of a bird will awaken us.

*and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low;*

Can't distinguish between different sounds.

*Ecclesiastes 12:5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high,*

Even that little two-step ladder in the kitchen makes them afraid of falling when they climb up on it.

*and fears shall be in the way,*

Seems like everything makes them fearful these days.

*and the almond tree shall flourish,*

Most of the hair is either grey or gone.

*and the grasshopper shall be a burden,*

So weak that you can't even tote the weight of a grasshopper around anymore.

*and desire shall fail:*

Haven't wanted sex for some time now.

*because man goeth to his long home,*

That's that mansion up in eternity.

*and the mourners go about the streets:*

Sad talkin' and slow walkin'.

*Ecclesiastes 12:6 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern.*

Death of this earthly body has finally overtaken them.

*Ecclesiastes 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.*

At the moment of death, the earthly body goes back into the ground where it came from, for it is only made of minerals and water to begin with and will never be seen or resurrected again. We are through with it and thank God for that. Who would want to bring it back up from the ground again and for what reason would we want to do that?

The soul and spirit has gone back to the Father who gave it and we are now in a beautiful spiritual body and anyone that tells me that the old ragged earthly body will be raised from the dead for the rapture is going to get a knot placed on his forehead by me personally. You are not going to take something so beautiful and mar it with religious nonsense.

Well, I've been rambling on for a bit now so how about I back up some of the things I've said with the words of the Apostle Paul and right there, with that statement, I may have misled someone. Is the bible the written words of men or the words of the Holy Spirit written down by men?

*2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

No need to add anything to that.

In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians it was written while he was at Ephesus, sometime around Passover, and probably during the third year of his stay. There was a lot of division and strife among the early church at Corinth and Paul intended to correct much of it with his first letter.

*1st Corinthians 15:35 But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?*

The word "**dead**" is the Greek word "**G3498 = nekros**" and it means **a corpse**, literally and figuratively and we know that the corpse, the expired earthly body, simply goes back into the ground from which it came so the question is valid by asking "with what body do they come"? They were confused. It made sense that the flesh body was dead and if so, what other body are they in?

*1st Corinthians 15:36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:*

That which thou "**sowest**" or place in the ground is not "**quickened**". The word "**quickened**" is the Greek word "**G2227 = zoopoieo**" and it means "**to make alive.**"

In plain language, that earthly body that you put into the ground is not going to be revitalized or made to come alive again, ever.

*1st Corinthians 15:37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:*

That earthly body that you put in the ground is not going to be the next body that you will be in. And then our Father uses the example of a seed of grain or wheat to show us, in language that we can understand, what the process will be like.

If you buy a packet of seeds from Walmart or a feed store you can place them in a small container and make starter plants out of them. The seed itself represents our earthly body and the seedling coming out of it represents our spiritual body.

The seed dies (our flesh and blood body) and the sprout (our spiritual body) grows. In the simplest terms, that's how the process works.

*1st Corinthians 15:38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.*

This spiritual body is pleasing to our Father because getting us back into paradise or heaven with Him is His ultimate goal.

*1st Corinthians 15:40 There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.*

Celestial bodies are spiritual; terrestrial bodies are flesh and blood.

*1st Corinthians 15:44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.*

Our soul and spirit is put in a natural body to begin with and put in a spiritual body after physical death.

How well should we treat this flesh body while we are in it? Should we build it up and make it look as perfect as we can possibly get it?

*1st Timothy 4:8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.*

Building your earthly body up is of little value if you neglect the spiritual side; we should keep it healthy because without it we can do very little work, either for ourselves or for the Father but, as with a lot of things in life, we shouldn't go overboard and pay excessive attention to it. The longer we keep it alive the more time our Father has to use us for His purposes.

Hey, you might be one of His election and that means that He has a special purpose for your life. He will probably use you in some way to further His plan, if you don't use your own free will to stop it from happening.

So there you have your two bodies. One is earthly and corruptible, the other is spiritual and incorruptible. Remember also that corruptible always refers to the body while mortal always refers to the soul.

The next time you climb out of bed in the morning and your muscles hurt and your joints creak a little, just remember that there is a better body coming....just make sure that you live your life in such a way that our Father doesn't have to destroy it.

*COPYRIGHT 2018 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED*

*\_\_29 January 2014\_\_*

*<http://www.thelightforever.com>*