



Week 6

Sermon Series: Death is Defeated

Sermon Title: "Death is Swallowed Up"

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:44-54

Study Handout Week of: March 6, 2022

Group Week of: March 13, 2022

Sermon Date: March 20, 2022

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Death – Genesis 3:1-19
Day 2	God's Kingdom – Psalm 45:1-17
Day 3	The Return of Christ – 1 Thess 4:13-18
Day 4	Defeat of Death – Isaiah 25:1-12
Day 5	The Great Judgement – Rev 20:11-15

The Text: 1 Corinthians 15:44-54

- 1) **Read** the text slowly and carefully.
- 2) **Pray** for understanding, insight, and transformation.
- 3) **Observe Everything.** Use pens and highlighters to mark the text. Come up with your own system of symbols, underlines, arrows, highlights, and notes, that will *help you understand and apply*. Only do what is helpful.
- 4) **Answer** the interpretive questions at the bottom.

⁵⁰I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Paul are speaking to the Corinthians (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) Why can we not fully enter the Kingdom of God in our present form?
- 3) When will the church be given their new resurrected bodies according to this passage?

Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) Paul's first declaration here is that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. Firstly, what do you think is meant by this statement? Secondly, why is this true? What does this tell us about our relationship to God and the experience of His presence while in our flesh and blood?
- 2) We live in a world that has its own ideas of what a "good body" and a "bad body" looks like. How often do those definitions effect the way you view yourself? Consider appearance, clothing, age, fitness, etc.
- 3) Paul is saying that the problem with our earthly bodies has nothing to do with human ideas of a "good body" or a "bad body" but instead that the problem with our present bodies is that they are flesh and blood, mortal, and perishable. According to God, what is "wrong" with your present body?
- 4) Based on the last two questions, do you tend you to see your "body" and its "problems" more from the world's perspective, or more from God's perspective? Why do you think this is?
- 5) One thing that scares almost every human is the idea of death. As Christians, we know we shouldn't fear death, but we do spend a lot of time guarding ourselves against it. How should knowing that Christ has already defeated death in Himself, but that he has not yet fully defeat death for us, affect our feelings towards death in the present?
- 6) One day your mortality will be clothed in immortality. Meditate on this truth and then consider life-threatening illnesses like cancer, AIDS, and heart disease. How do these future promises impact the way that Christians go through life-threatening sicknesses?
- 7) Our King has begun and will be faithful to complete the fight against death. Therefore, we have greater assurance not only to face death, but also to make sacrifices in our daily lives. We know, because we will be resurrected and rewarded, that daily sacrifices are not in vain. What sacrifices do you struggle to do because you think "they aren't worth it"? Apply the resurrection to these areas. What, if anything, changes? How can you live in the power of the resurrection this week?