

The Full Gospel - A Body Will Be Saved

The Full Gospel is that Jesus came to restore life. Not to restore it to some point where you thought it was better, but to restore it to the way of God's original design. One where His life was in your spirit and your soul served the spirit and your body served your soul (and spirit).

And as we've looked at the topic of salvation, we've seen that your spirit gets saved in an instant when you believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. It's a finished work. You are justified. You are born again. You look like Jesus in your spirit. The spirit is reunited with God. It can receive His Word again. The spirit speaks the things of God to the soul.

But this corrupt soul is not saved in an instant. It's in a process called sanctification. It's in this state where it's own desires are warring against the desires of the spirit and we must repent, change our mind, and take up our cross, nailing that sinful desire of the mind, will, and emotions to the cross and make that soul submit to the spirit. The more we do this the more we progress in our soul transformation to become like Jesus in our soul.

So the spirit is saved. The soul is being saved. So what about this ol wretched body? The body WILL be saved.

Romans 8:30 (NKJV)

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

So who God appointed beforehand to be conformed to the image of Jesus, he also invited to become children of God, and those that accepted the invitation were forgiven and saved by Jesus' finished work on the cross and we are now seen as we never sinned, and those He also glorified!

This is the final step of the salvation of man. This is where we get a resurrection body like Jesus. You've probably heard that in heaven there is no more sickness, no more pain, no more tears...

That's because sin is dead and gone but it's also because we will have a spirit, soul, and body that are renewed and restored to look like Jesus!

But here Paul speaks of it as if it had already been done... *"and whom He justified, these He also glorified."*

How is that? He views this future event as though it has already been done. But he can do this because he knows it's certain...because God's Word promised it.

The other night I was keeping the scoreboard at the baseball game. I know most of the rules of the game of baseball pretty well. So there were times I made a call before it actually happened but I only did that when it was certain to happen. Here's an example: If a batter hits a foul ball with less than 2 strikes, it counts as a strike. But it only counts as a strike once it actually lands foul. While it's still in the air, it's still a live ball without an outcome. I would go ahead and mark it as a strike because it was certain. It may not have happened yet, but according to the rules, it was a certainty to happen.

This is why Paul says glorified as though it is already done even though it hasn't yet happened.

What happens exactly?

Philippians 3:20-21 (NKJV)

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

When Jesus returns, your body will be changed! Can I get a Hallelujah? It will be conformed to, having the same form as Jesus' glorious body!

1 John 3:2 (NKJV)

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

We will be exactly as He is ...the only difference is that we will not have divine nature but we will share in His.

John 17:22 (NKJV)

And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

This is a part of a prayer that Jesus prays for all believers. That we would be united with Him and in unity with one another that they world may know believe that the Father sent Jesus here to show His love. And the result will be us sharing in God's glory forever!

We were made in His image...

In glorification, that image that we lost in Adam, is finally and fully restored so that we resemble Jesus completely in spirit, soul, and body.

This is the great hope we have in Jesus!

1 Corinthians 15:51-58 (NKJV)

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

55 “O Death, where is your sting?

O Hades, where is your victory?”

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

I don't know about you, but I hope I'm on the earth to see this final change take place...in (1 Thess 4) it says that the dead in Christ will rise FIRST!

I gotta say if you are one that really likes your body and aren't too excited about getting a glorified one, this should peak that desire. The dead will rise out of the grave...in a glorified body! The trumpet will sound and they will be raised incorruptible and WE shall be changed!

I hope this excites you about the Lord's return. Whether you are still living or not, you are a part of it, we all get changed! Thank you Jesus for the victory you give to us!

I want to look back at that last verse:

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NKJV)

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Let this hope be fuel to keep you pushing forward even if your body is failing in this life. We are called to be steadfast and immovable...you don't move and don't let anything else move you. Don't walk away and don't be drawn away. Get yourself planted in your faith and hope in Jesus!

Romans 8:18 (NKJV)

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

The things you are going through in this life...they are not worthy to be compared with what God has for you. That means they don't have enough weight or as much worth.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NKJV)

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

So we have this promise of a body that will be saved and changed and at that time the sanctification of the soul will be completed as well. This is to give us hope...

It's to encourage us to not lose heart. Some have dealt with a lot of pain emotionally and physically. And it seems big at the time but it doesn't have the weight to compare to a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

We must not keep looking or focusing on the things that are seen...the physical. Because it's all temporary. It won't last forever. There will be a day when you hear that trumpet...and in an INSTANT...you will be changed!

So what do we do for now? Just wait? Just hope?

"be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord"

This physical body was created to serve the soul as it served the spirit. It was intended to allow the soul to connect to the physical realm while it submitted to the spiritual.

While we wait for the trumpet, we must get this body back in line...back under the obedience of the mind that is under the obedience of the spirit.

The body has 5 senses that communicate information to the soul...the soul that is in the process of being saved. The soul that has natural sinful desires. The soul that you are supposed to make submit to the spirit that has been reborn and in God's image.

So what happens when you use the body to communicate sinful things to the soul...the soul's desire is met and the soul heads down the path of conforming to the world.

What are your eyes viewing?

Matthew 6:22-23 (NKJV)

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"

What are your ears hearing?

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NKJV)

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

The bible tells us to have ears to hear and eyes to see what the Spirit is saying and showing us. How can we do that if we are pumping ourselves full of things that satisfy sinful desire...we were supposed to crucify that, remember?

What are your hands touching? Where are your feet going?

Matthew 18:8 (NKJV)

“If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire.

Are our actions that we take with our body causing us to sin therefore creating separation between the spirit and the soul, we are undoing work the Holy Spirit is trying to do within us...

2 Peter 1:4 (NKJV)

by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

While we wait for our body to be saved...we partake of Jesus' divine nature and escape the corruption of this world...take every thought captive...take control of what you see and hear and do with your hands, where you go with your feet.

Do those things line up with the holiness that God called you to? Do they separate you from the ways of the world, the things that are common to man but don't line up with what God says is right?

God wants to show His glory through Jesus, IN YOU.

The more God glorifies us in His Son, the more he is glorified. Because God is most glorified in us when we are most glorified in him.