

Christ's resurrection secured for us:**1. Regeneration**

a secret act of God in which he imparts new spiritual life to us. This is sometimes called “being born again” (using language from John 3:3–8)

2. Sanctification

a progressive work of God and man that makes us more and more free from sin and like Christ in our actual lives.

3. Justification - an instantaneous legal act of God in which he

- (1) thinks of our sins as forgiven and Christ's righteousness as belonging to us, &
- (2) declares us to be righteous in his sight.

4. Glorification

The final step in the application of redemption.

It will happen when Christ returns and does the following:

- 1. raises from the dead the bodies of all believers for all time who have died and reunites them with their souls
- 2. changes the bodies of all believers who remain alive

Thereby giving all believers at the same time perfect resurrection bodies like his own.

Finally, since “God raised the Lord,” he “will also raise us up by his power” (**1 Cor. 6:14**). And “he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us ... into his presence” (**2 Cor. 4:14**). Jesus' resurrection means we will also experience a resurrection of our own. Paul says that in Jesus' resurrection we see a picture of what is to come for us (**1 Cor. 15:20**).

1 Cor. 6:14

14 And God raised the Lord and will also **raise us up by his power**.

2 Cor. 4:14

13 Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, **14** knowing

that he who raised the Lord Jesus will **raise us** also with **Jesus** and **bring us with you into his presence**.

1 Cor. 15:20

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, **the firstfruits** of those who have **fallen asleep**.

21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But each in his own order: Christ the first-fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.

25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

26 The **last enemy** to be **destroyed** is **death**.

27 For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him.

28 **When all things** are **subjected to him**, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Note: Paul says that Christ is the **“first fruits of those who have fallen asleep”** (1 Cor. 15:20). In calling Christ the “first fruits” (Gk. ἀπαρχή, G569), Paul uses a metaphor from agriculture to indicate that we will be like Christ. Just as the **“first fruits” or the first taste of the ripening crop show what the rest of the harvest will be like for that crop**, so Christ as the **“first fruits” shows what our resurrection bodies will be like when, in God’s final “harvest,”** he raises us from the dead and brings us into his presence.

Our glorification is part of the culmination of all things in the recreation. Christ will destroy every rule and every power and authority (v24). The last enemy to be destroyed is death (v26). God’s complete visible rule will be fully manifested without any more opposition/rebellion/defiance.

New Testament: Romans 8:30; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Colossians 3:4

Romans 8:30 (G1391)

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the **glory** that is to be revealed to us.

19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

23 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.

24 For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?

25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also **justified**, and those whom he **justified** he also **glorified**.

Romans 8 even speaks to the fact that creation groans awaiting our glorification (manifestation). The cursed ground is waiting to be fully restored. But our glorification will precede it.

The reference to glorification in Romans 8:30 is in the past tense. This shows that those who are in Christ can be certain of their future final transformation. God knows the end from the beginning. He guarantees that all who He predestined, called, & justified will persevere (overcome) and finally be glorified.

When Jesus returns, “we shall all be changed” (**1 Cor. 15:51**); our mortal body will be exchanged for an immortal one (**1 Cor. 15:53**). At the final resurrection, our resurrection, we will receive a new body just like the one Jesus now inhabits.

1 Cor. 15:51, 53

42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is **sown is perishable**; what is raised is **imperishable**.

43 It is **sown in dishonor**; it is **raised in glory**. It is **sown in weakness**; it is **raised in power**.

44 It is **sown a natural body**; it is **raised a spiritual body**. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

45 Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

46 But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual.

47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

48 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.

49 Just as **we have borne the image of the man of dust**, we **shall also bear the image of the man of heaven**.

50 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

51 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 imperishable, and we shall be changed.

53 **For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.**

54 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.”

55 “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power 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 brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

We shall be changed:

- **perishable / imperishable** - *will not wear out or grow old or ever be subject to any kind of disease or sickness*
- **dishonor / glory** - *beauty or attractiveness of appearance - potentially radiate light of God's glory*
- **weakness / power** - *full of strength and power (not infinite power but minimally prefall strength)*
- **natural body / spiritual body** - *completely subject to the will of the Spirit of God & responsive to the Holy Spirit.*
- **mortal / immortal** - *no longer subject to death*

Finally, notice our hope in our final glorification should fuel and focus us to be persistent and consistent in our ministry work/labor.

Question #1

What is the definition of glorification in the material?

Question #2

Do you ever contemplate the fact that we will one day be glorified (immortal, incorruptible bodies and corresponding minds)?

Question #3

Are there any physical, emotional, mental struggles in this present life that you look forward to being resolved when we are glorified?

Question #4

Does the blessed hope of future glorification affect your ability to persevere through the difficulties of this fallen life?