We Will All Be Changed

We *must* be changed in order to inherit the kingdom of God.

**1. How are the dead raised?**

A. Like grain from a *dying seed*

B. With bodies suited *for heaven*

**2. With what kind of body do they come?**

With a body like Christ’s (Philippians 3:20-21)

A. Imperishable—not subject to *decay*

B. Glorious—shining with heavenly *splendor*

Matthew 17:2

C. Powerful—able to share in *His rule*

D. Spiritual—animated by the *Holy Spirit*

John 5:21, 25; Romans 8:11

**3. When will we be changed?**

Matthew 24:30-31; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

Numbers 10:1-3; Isaiah 27:13

When the trumpet sounds for *gathering*

the people of God

**Uses of this doctrine**

A. For *critics* of the resurrection

B. For *comfort* in our sorrow

C. For *continuing* to stand fast

1 Corinthians 15:58

**For Personal Reflection or Family Discussion**

1. What was the most important or helpful thing you heard in the sermon?

2. What questions did the sermon raise in your mind?

What was the most convicting part of the message?

3. Why doesn’t it matter to your eventual resurrection if your body is eaten by a shark, and the shark is caught and served at a restaurant, so that the atoms of your body are shared by several different people? (Who gets the atoms of your body at the resurrection?)

4. While we don’t know what we will look like in the resurrection, we will be able to identify our loved ones. How does 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 imply this truth?

Note: In verses 44-46, “natural” = “soulish.” In the Old Testament the soul (or life) is associated with the blood (Leviticus 17:11). Our heavenly bodies will not be animated by our blood, that is, by our natural, soulish life. “Flesh” sometimes refers to our sinful desires, but in verse 50 it refers to our frail humanity (as “flesh” does in Isaiah 40:5-8). So *“flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God”* means that the frail, natural life, which we have now, is not suited for an eternal, heavenly existence. Our new physical bodies will be energized by the Holy Spirit rather than by the blood.