

Argument Five: The Kind of Body

1 Corinthians 15:35–49

1 *Two questions by an intellectual objector*

35 But someone may ask,
“How are the dead raised?
With what kind of body will they come?”

2 *The pictures demonstrating the resurrection*

a. Picture 1:

The seed — it dies,
then arises

1) Has a different body
after arising

2) Has a body given by God

36 How foolish!
What you sow does not come to life
unless it dies.

37 When you sow,
you do not plant the body that will be,
but just a seed,
perhaps of wheat or of something else.

38 But God gives it a body
as he has determined,
and to each kind of seed
he gives its own body.

b. Picture 2:

Animal bodies — they differ

39 All flesh is not the same:
Men have one kind of flesh,
animals have another,
birds another and fish another.

c. Picture 3:

Earthly and heavenly bodies —
the glory of their bodies differ

40 There are also heavenly bodies
and there are earthly bodies;
but the splendour of the heavenly bodies
is one kind,
and the splendour of the earthly bodies is another.

41 The sun has one kind of splendour,
the moon another and the stars another;
and star differs from star in splendour.

3 *The contrasting body of the resurrection*

a. Corrupt vs. incorrupt,
perishable vs. imperishable

b. Dishonour vs. glory

c. Weakness vs. power

d. Natural vs. spiritual

42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead.
The body that is sown is perishable,
it is raised imperishable;

43 It is sown in dishonour,
it is raised in glory;
it is sown in weakness,
it is raised in power;

4 *The strong fact:*

***There is a natural body
and a spiritual body***

a. The Scriptural evidence:
The first and second Adams

1) Their nature:

A soul vs. a spirit

2) Their order:

Natural vs. spiritual

3) Their origin:

Earth vs. heaven

b. The nature of men
and their destiny:

Are patterned after Adam
or Christ

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

46 The spiritual did not come first,
but the natural,
and after that the spiritual.

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

48 As was the earthly man,
so are those who are of the earth;
and as is the man from heaven,
so also are those who are of heaven.

49 And just as we have borne
the likeness of the earthly man,
so shall we bear
the likeness of the man from heaven.