The Bodily Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15
The Bodily Resurrection

1) What is "death"?

2) Who was Plato and what did he teach about the afterlife?

3) What is the difference between resurrection and reincarnation?

4) Did Jesus' flesh-and-bones body come back to life when He resurrected?

5) When Paul saw Jesus on the Damascus road, what did he see?
The Bodily Resurrection

6) Why couldn't the servants of Elisha find the body of Elijah?

7) Will Bruce Jenner be a man or a woman in the next life?

8) Why should you be embarrassed for David Brown and Don Tarbet?

9) Why will Gehenna Hell be worse than the suffering of the intermediate state?
**The Westminster Confession:**

At the last day, such as are found alive shall not die, but be changed (1 Cor 15:51, 52; 1 Th 4:17): and all the dead shall be raised up, *with the selfsame bodies and none other*, although with different qualities, which shall be united again to their souls forever (Job 19:2, 27; 1 Cor 15:42-44).

The bodies of the unjust shall, by the power of Christ, be raised to dishonour: the bodies of the just, by His Spirit, unto honour; and be made conformable to His own glorious body (John 5:28, 29; Acts 24:15; 1 Cor 15:42; Phil 3:21).
Alexander Campbell:

Immortality, in the sacred writings, is never applied to the spirit of man. It is not the doctrine of Plato which the resurrection of Jesus proposes. *It is the immortality of the body* of which his resurrection is a proof and pledge. This was never developed till he became the first born from the dead, and *in a human body entered the heavens. Jesus was not a spirit when he returned to God.* He is not made the Head of the New Creation as a spirit, but as the Son of Man.

*Christianity Restored*, pp. 277-278.
What our people believe:
What our people believe:

Fleshly body raised?
What our people believe:

Fleshy body raised?
One Christian:

"When I die, I want to donate my body to science. They can dissect my body, dismember it, burn it, grind it up – I don't care, because when I die I'm done with this body and will have no use for it again."
Survey

• 12 congregations

• 274 participants
Survey

82% = physical body of Jesus was raised.

31% = Jesus ascended in His resurrected body.

22% = Jesus still has His resurrected body.

53% = Christians’ physical bodies will NOT be raised to life.
Survey

55% = Christians will be bodiless-angelic-spirit-beings.

59% = It doesn’t matter what we believe.
What is death?
What is death?

**Genesis 2:15-17**

15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.
16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;  
17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for *in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.*"
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**James 2:26**

... the body without the spirit is dead, ...
What is death?

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Adam ⇒ immortal
What is death?

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17 but of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."
We believe that the doctrine presented [by Dr. Larry West] during [a] campaign was FALSE, which amounted to the doctrine of "Physical Immortality." That in itself is a contradiction of terms, for nothing physical can be immortal. PHYSICAL is material, which is temporary, or mortal (subject to death). ... The doctrine of "Physical Immortality" has its roots in Catholicism.

Roman Catholicism, pp. 536-537.
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Adam ⇒ immortal (fleshly male body)
Eve ⇒ immortal (fleshly female body)
The New Adam
(Jesus)
The New Adam  
(Jesus)

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Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned —

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.
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Key Terms

1) “Resurrection” = “to stand up”
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Acts 2:31
31 [David] spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.
Key Terms

1) “Resurrection” = “to stand up” (ἀνάστασις)

John 20:27

27 Then [Jesus] said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."
Key Terms

1) “Resurrection” = “to stand up”
   (ἀνάστασις)

Luke 24:39
39 [Jesus said] Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have."
Key Terms

1) “Resurrection” = “to stand up” (ἀνάστασις)

Romans 10:9
9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
“Change”
“Change”

- “Exchange for another”
- “Transform”
“Change”

• “Exchange for another”
• “Transform”
Matthew 17:1-2

1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;

2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.
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John 1:14
14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us ...
Key Terms

1) “Resurrection” = “to stand up” (ἀνάστασις)

2) “Reincarnation” = re + incarnation

Re-incarnation – "the belief that the soul, upon death of the body, comes back to earth in another body."

(The Free Dictionary by Farlex)
Jesus’ Resurrection

1) Jesus' fleshly body was raised to life.
Jesus’ Resurrection

1) Jesus' fleshly body was raised to life.

2) Jesus showed His fleshly body to various disciples for 40 days.
1 Corinthians 15:4-7

4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,
5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.
6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.
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7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.
8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.
Acts 1:11

11 [Two angels said to the disciples], "This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."
Argument: Jesus cast off His resurrection body.
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Body of Elijah(?)
Argument: Jesus cast off His resurrection body.

Body of Elijah(?)

Death = “separation” (Ja 2:26)
Jesus’ Resurrection

1) Jesus' fleshly body was raised to life.

2) Jesus showed His fleshly body to various disciples for 40 days.

3) Jesus is still a man right now.
1 Timothy 2:5
5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,
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HCSB
5 For there is one God
And one mediator between God and humanity, Christ Jesus, Himself human
1 John 4:2-3

2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God,

3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.
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2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come [and remains] in the flesh is of God,

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ἐληλυθότα – perfect participle of ἔρχομαι
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False doctrine: Gnosticism
1 John

- Jesus came in the flesh (1 Jn 1:1-3).
- His fleshly body died (1 Jn 5:6-8).
- His fleshly body resurrected and ascended back into heaven (1 Jn 4:2-3).
- Anyone disagreeing with this has the spirit of Antichrist.
1) Jesus' fleshly body was raised to life.

2) Jesus showed His fleshly body to various disciples for 40 days.

3) Jesus is still a man right now.

4) Jesus' is the "firstfruits" of the resurrection.
1 Corinthians 15:20

20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
1 Corinthians 15:42-44

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

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. ...
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“spiritual body” = supernatural body
Isaiah 40:28-31

28 Have you not known?
Have you not heard?
The everlasting God, the LORD,
The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Neither faints nor is weary.
His understanding is unsearchable.
29 He gives power to the weak,
And to those who have no might He increases strength.

31 But those who wait on the LORD
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.
“Bodily” Resurrection
“Bodily” Resurrection

Passage #1

Job 19:26-27
26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That \textit{in my flesh I shall see God},
27 Whom I shall see for myself, And \textit{my eyes} shall behold, and not another. ...
“Bodily” Resurrection

Passage #2

Isaiah 26:19 (NIV)
19 But your dead will live; 
their bodies will rise.
You who dwell in the dust, 
wake up and shout for joy.
Your dew is like the dew of the morning; 
the earth will give birth to her dead.
“Bodily” Resurrection

Passage #3

Matthew 10:28
28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
“Bodily” Resurrection

Passage #4

Matthew 27:51-53
51 Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,
52 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised;
53 and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.
“Bodily” Resurrection

Passage #5

Romans 8:11

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.
“Bodily” Resurrection

Passage #6

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

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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. ...
“We shall all be changed”
“We shall all be changed”

1 Corinthians 15

The Living

“We”
“Mortal”
“Flesh and blood”

The Dead

“Those asleep”
“Corruptible”
“Corruption”
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1 Thessalonians 4:15

15 ... we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.
“We shall all be changed”

1 Corinthians 15

**The Living**

“We”  
“Mortal”  
“Flesh and blood”

**The Dead**

“Those asleep”  
“Corruptible”  
“Corruption”
“We shall all be changed”

1 Corinthians 15

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed —

• “Exchange for another”

• “Transform”
“We shall all be changed”

1 Corinthians 15

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 incorruptible, and we [the living] shall be changed.
1 Corinthians 15

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 incorruptible, and we [the living] shall be changed.

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood [the living] cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption [the dead] inherit incorruption.
"Sweet Hour Of Prayer"

“This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise
To seize the everlasting prize ...”

Ellis Crum, Sacred Selections, #23
"Sweet Hour Of Prayer"

“This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise
To seize the everlasting prize …

Ellis Hum, Sacred Selections, #27
1 Corinthians 15:53

53 For this corruptible [the dead] must put on incorruption, and this mortal [the living] must put on immortality.
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53 For this corruptible [the dead] must put on incorruption, and this mortal [the living] must put on immortality.

"put on" (ἐνδύω) – "put on, clothe one's self"

(Thayer)
1 Corinthians 15:54-55

54 So when **this corruptible** [the dead] has put on incorruption, and **this mortal** [the living] has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "**O Death** [living], where is your sting?
**O Hades** [dead], where is your victory?"
Is it incredible?
Acts 26:6-8
6 [Paul said] I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers.
7 To this promise our twelve tribes, earnestly serving God night and day, hope to attain. For this hope's sake, King Agrippa, I am accused by the Jews.
8 Why should it be thought incredible by you that God raises the dead?
The “One Hope”
The “One Hope”

Ephesians 4:4-6
4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;
5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
6 one God and Father of all ...
2 Timothy 2:17-18

17 [The] message [of false teachers] will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, 18 who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.
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18 who have *strayed concerning the truth*, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they *overthrow the faith of some*.
Does it matter?
1 Corinthians 15:12-19

If the dead are not raised:
(1) Christ did not raise [and stay raised].
(2) Our preaching is empty.
(3) Your faith is also empty.
(4) We are found false witnesses of God.
(5) You are still in your sins!
(6) Those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
(7) We are of all men the most pitiable.