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The Nature of Jesus' Resurrection Body

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THE NATURE OF JESUS' RESURRECTION BODY

This is of great importance to the believer, for we someday will have a similar body, as testified to by the following passages.

"Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" (Phil. 3:21).

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2).

Here are some scriptural facts regarding the nature of Jesus' resurrected body:

- **He was recognized in His new body.**

It is true of course that some did not recognize Jesus at first, but it was only because they believed Him to be forever dead! Soon, however, He was indeed recognized.

A. By Mary Magdalene

"Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni, which is to say, Master" (John 20:16).

B. By the two Emmaus disciples

"And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight" (Luke 24:31).

C. By Thomas

"And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

D. By the eleven apostles

"And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted" (Matt. 28:17).

- **His body consisted of flesh and bones.**

"Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have" (Luke 24:39).

- **His body bore the marks of the crucifixion wounds.**

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn" (Zech. 12:10).

"And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD ... Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing" (John 20:20, 27).

“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen” (Rev. 1:7).

“And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth” (Rev. 5:6).

- **His body was touched and handled on several occasions.**

A. By Mary Magdalene (John 20:17)

B. By some women (Matt. 28:9)

C. By the apostles (Luke 24:39)

- **He ate and drank on at least three occasions as Peter would later testify to:**

“And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead” (Acts 10:39-41).

These occasions were:

A. In Emmaus

“And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them” (Luke 24:30).

B. In Jerusalem

“And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them” (Luke 24:41-43).

C. By the Sea of Galilee

“Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead” (John 21:12-14).

- **His new body was not subjected to or limited by the laws of time and gravity.**

This was demonstrated in vivid fashion on four occasions:

A. In Emmaus

“And their eyes were opened, and they knew him, and he vanished out of their sight” (Luke 24:31).

B. In Jerusalem (on two occasions)

1. First occasion

“And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you” (Luke 24:36).

“Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you” (John 20:19).

2. Second occasion

“And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you” (John 20:26).

C. On the Mount of Olives

“And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven” (Luke 24:51).

“And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight” (Acts 1:9).