

John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

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GOD'S NEW PEOPLE

The amazing new creation – the new man – the new woman. A new spirit and soon a new body.

Astounding. Almost beyond our comprehension.

At times I have written of the amazing things that happened around the crucifixion, so many not recognized or realized by most Christians. And when I have spoken of that, people often are surprised. People ask where that is in the Bible, so I point it out. It is right in the middle of the accounts they are used to. They just never saw it.

That's the way it is with the significance of the resurrection and the ascension of Jesus to heaven.

Think with me a moment. Most of us who have lived a few years have encountered death of a friend or family member, someone we cared for. Or certainly we have seen the death accounts in the paper from wars and accidents. Even though I am sure none of us are fond of that reality, we at least have come to realize that death does exist. That it is a part of life, a part everyone will experience if Jesus does not return to earth first.

So death of the body is realized. And then many also think about the spiritual side of life, that somehow after death something of the person goes on. That is a fundamental tenet of Christianity. Something goes on. Something in the spiritual realm goes somewhere. Heaven? To be with God in a spiritual sense while we are all awaiting the return of Jesus?

People who think about such things, however many there are, see there are two sides to existence – physical and spiritual. And when a person dies, the physical side is over.

Let's look at the resurrection and what really happened. After Jesus was crucified he came out of the tomb. We can all agree with that. His body was found not to be in the tomb. And he appeared to many – to individuals, to the disciples, to a large group. There are several accounts of these appearances over several weeks.

Now to the point. When he appeared he would just appear. Really. He evidently came through the wall. Or the ceiling. Or the closed door. Or maybe he just suddenly appeared in the midst of the disciples, like members of the TV show Star Trek used to be transported to different places. But that was fiction. Jesus is real.

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P. O. Box 15797, Wilmington, NC 28408 * 910 395 1465

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So well, that is still ok with the thinking of most. It is understandable that a spirit could come through the wall or the closed door. A spirit does not have a body.

Here now the hard part. Jesus standing amidst the disciples asked for something to eat. And he ate a piece of fish. What? A spirit could not eat a piece of fish. This must be a physical body.

Earlier he told a woman not to touch his body because he had not yet gone to his father. Evidently a real body if he warned her not to touch.

And we go on. Even near the end of his time on earth he asked the fishing disciples to bring some fish so he could cook them on a fire he had prepared.

A real body. A body that once Jesus referred to as flesh and bones, not flesh and blood (well, he had bled on the cross for us – maybe now no blood left). As he said then, “Look at my hands and my feet, and see that it is I myself. Feel me, and you will know, for a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, as you can see I have.” (*Luke 24:39-Good News Translation*)

So we are left with a startling thing – this Jesus who came into closed rooms and just appeared and disappeared after his resurrection has some type of body but he behaves like a spirit, like an angel would.

And then this, right after Acts 1:8. After speaking with his disciples, giving them great advice to wait for the power to come before stepping out, telling them to take the gospel everywhere, Jesus suddenly rose straight up out of sight. The body of Jesus rose as well as the spirit.

We know from scripture that God the Father has seated Jesus at his right hand and has placed all things under his feet. Jesus is over all things (except of course the Father).

So get this – In heaven now where God the Father is, Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father with everything under his feet. He is the head of the CHURCH, the head of the Kingdom of God. And the Jesus sitting there is a body as well as a spirit. He is in Heaven in a body. All the angels around and God himself are spirits. Not so Jesus. (Do you remember when Jesus at the Last Supper told his disciples he would not drink this wine with them again until when they all are in Heaven? It's a body that drinks wine.).

This resurrected and ascended Jesus, who is head of the CHURCH – that collection of people called out of the world to be in a new society of which Jesus is the head, the head of the Kingdom of God, is the first of a new line of beings. He, the Bible tells us, is the first son of God. There are many other adopted sons, those true believers in Jesus who are adopted in to be sons of God. That is in fact what the “being born again” act is, the receiving a new spirit inside, a rebirth in which God himself becomes our father (John 1:13).

All true believers also will receive a new body. That is clearly described in 1 Corinthians 15:51-54. When believers meet Jesus in the air on his journey to collect his believers, whether physically living or

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dead, they receive a glorious new body. A real body. Don't know exactly what that will be like. But it is a body.

Listen to this secret truth: we shall not all die, but when the last trumpet sounds, we shall all be changed in an instant, as quickly as the blinking of an eye. For when the trumpet sounds, the dead will be raised, never to die again, and we shall all be changed. For what is mortal must be changed into what is immortal; what will die must be changed into what cannot die. So when this takes place, and the mortal has been changed into the immortal, then the scripture will come true: "Death is destroyed; victory is complete!"

- Corinthians 15:51-53 (Good News Translation)

We, however, are citizens of heaven, and we eagerly wait for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven. He will change our weak mortal bodies and make them like his own glorious body, using that power by which he is able to bring all things under his rule.

- Philippians 3:20-23 (Good News Translation)

Jesus already has one. We also will have new glorious bodies. And this is an entirely new group or line of individuals, born again spirits in glorious new bodies. A new creation. A new man. A new woman. Somehow in his great wisdom, God has created a situation where we will all exist and be and do, while still there will be the spirit beings known as angels and, at least for some time after Jesus collects his believers, still some of the current type of humans living on earth.

Amazing. I think this probably cannot be comprehended by most, and people just run from this or turn from this. Or don't ever think of it.

But it is all there, in the New Testament.

There is so much more to God and his plans than we know.

THE MESSAGE IS THE RETURN

The message now is the return. The message for today. Yes, we have reached that point.

That is the very clear guidance God sent me about a year and a half ago in directing me further along the path he has had me on ever since he came into my car twenty-four years ago that night as I have so often described. Yes, I am to continue as always in fulfilling the various aspects of his call, including giving my testimony, feeding his sheep, preaching the gospel, healing the broken-hearted, giving sight to the blind, and much more, but the focus right now is the return. All the wonderful aspects of God are important and key and available to believers. But the message now is the return.

Why? Because it is imminent. Because people need to be aware, to be alert, to be ready, to be in the right relationship with God. Jesus warned us clearly. "Be always on the watch, and pray that you may

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be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.” (Luke 21:36 NIV).

The message is the return. If you are places where that is not discussed, bring it up. Ask why not. Start a Bible study on the subject. Start a class at your church on it. Or go somewhere else that is open and spread the truth.

Always remember to stay alert. The Lord really is coming soon. May you live in the blessings of God always.

John

PLEASE:

- **DO SEND THIS NEWSLETTER TO OTHERS!!!** - Many people today know nothing about the Lord, nothing about his imminent return or about the Holy Spirit or about divine healing or about who they are in Jesus and so many other key things. **How will they ever hear and know unless you help them?** This newsletter may be copied, printed, or forwarded by email to others so long as it is copied, printed, or forwarded in its entirety with the appropriate attributions included. We in fact encourage you to do so and especially to give printed copies to those who you know would benefit and do not have access to computers.
- **CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE MINISTRY.** We can only operate as we have the funds to pay our expenses. There is no silent giant organization behind our ministry. The funds come from people like you. **Our unending gratitude to those who do contribute!**

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