

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (v11)

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, & where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, & to love in your name, for you live & reign with the Father & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, & to each kind of seed its own body. ⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. 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 physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, & then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; & as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. ⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers & sisters, is this: flesh & blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Compare & contrast St. Paul’s description with Jesus’ description & his resurrection appearances. *Note: St. Paul is guarding against an understanding of the resurrection like zombies or Frankenstein’s monster; he isn’t promoting a spiritualized, metaphorical, bodiless understanding (note v53). Think about how a seed turns into a real plant, a caterpillar into a real butterfly. See Luke 24:13-43; John 12:23-26, 20:14-20, 21:1-14*
2. Compare this lesson to St. Paul’s words in *Romans 5:12--6:11, 8:1-11*? What similarities & differences do you find? How do they inform each other?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Evangelism in *Acts* (e.g. *Acts 2:14-40*) consistently includes what Jesus outlines in *Luke 24:44-48* (Jesus’ lordship, crucifixion, resurrection, forgiveness, & witnesses). How would such crib notes help you when you’re asked about Jesus? *Note- 4 of 5 are explicitly in the creed*
4. If these five things give the basic shape to what we tell others about Jesus, where do his miracles & teachings fit in? *See John 3:9-15, 5:31-39, 8:12-20, 10:22-38, 20:31-31*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Christians claim that so far only Jesus has been resurrected, but everyone else will be on the last day (e.g. *John 5:28-29*). How does this move the conversation away from empirical, experimental biological data to more substantive points? What might those points be? *See 1 Corinthians 15:1-58*
6. How does the incarnation of Jesus shed light on *vv45, 49-50, 53*? What makes St. Paul’s claims good news to our neighbors? *See Psalm 8; Isaiah 25:6-9; John 10:31-39; Revelation 21:2-7*

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Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

02.23.25

Series: DF²

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*Our life together **D**eveloping **F**ully **D**evoted **F**ollowers of Jesus*

Embodied

Don't worry, what God raises up cannot be destroyed

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: So it is with the resurrection of the dead.
What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. (v42)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Love your enemies, & you will be children of the Most High;
forgive, & you will be forgiven. (*Luke 6:35, 37*)

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