**The major key in understanding the truths presented in this chapter is the recognizing of three different bodies. These are “the body of this death” (**[**Romans 7:24**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+7.24&t=NKJV)**) “the natural body,” and “the spiritual body.” With this perception, one then can begin to unlock the truths of the second death and resurrection.**

**Three Orders of The Resurrection  
*Chapter XIII of*** [***Bible One - Gary Whipple's Beyond the Rapture***](http://www.bibleone.net/BeyondtheRapture.pdf) ***Excerpts*By Gary Whipple**

CLOSING REMARKS

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In using this key, we must first compare scripture with scripture. Two such comparable scriptures that we have already studied, stand out in First Corinthians to teach us about the natural body. The first ([1 Corinthians 15:42-44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+15.42-44&t=NKJV)), tells us about the death and the resurrection of the natural body. The second ([1 Corinthians 15:51-54](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+15.51-54&t=NKJV)) adds to the first by telling us when it will be raised. The first speaks of both the first and second resurrection (no specific time). The second speaks of only the second resurrection. Notice, the first ([1 Corinthians 15:42](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+15.42&t=NKJV)) says, “...it is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption,” whereas, the second ([1 Corinthians 15:53](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+15.53&t=NKJV)) says, “...for this corruption must put on incorruption....” The first says, “….it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body...,” whereas the second, says, “...this mortal must put on immortality.”

As the reader ponders these things, he must remember the order of the three bodies. This order declares that this present “body of this death,” must be redeemed ([Romans 8:23b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.23b&t=NKJV)) to the place where it was lost. This is Adam’s body before he fell in sin, or the “natural body.” Jesus was born into this sinless body and became the last Adam. Then, we come to the last order, which is the spiritual body. In order for the natural to become the spiritual, it must be changed through a second death and resurrection. For those who will be out-resurrected at the judgment seat, this death and resurrection could be instantaneous (a translation) without any hurt. For those who suffer loss, this death is for a thousand years before they are resurrected. In [1 Corinthians 15:51](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+15.51&t=NKJV), the Lord declares that “we all shall be changed,” i.e., our bodies will have gone through the second death and been resurrected into spiritual bodies.

Jesus was the first to receive a spiritual body. This is so because He is the “firstfruit of the dead.” All others who were raised or translated into heaven before Him, could only receive natural bodies. This includes Enoch and Elijah of the Old Testament, who were both raptured. It also includes Moses, who was apparently resurrected in a special resurrection ([Jude 1:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jude+1.9&t=NKJV)), and was seen on the mount of transfiguration with Elijah in [Matthew 17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+17&t=NKJV). So, up until the time of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, there were no spiritual bodies. Instead, there were men who had actually walked around in heaven with natural bodies of flesh, bones and blood.

The question may be asked, “How can a natural body traverse outer space without dying?” The answer is, that “God will make it so!” After all, if He is going to raise up all of the lost into their bodies of sin and death (the same bodies they died with) and judge them before the Great White Throne, somewhere in heaven, He certainly can raise up all believers in their natural bodies to be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Also, since Israel will be raised into natural (redeemed) bodies to live here on the earth, they will basically live forever in the earthly blessings of God. In [Deuteronomy 7:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+7.9&t=NKJV), God tells Israel, that He would keep His covenant with them for a thousand generations. Literally speaking, this would be thirty-three thousand years. Figuratively, it could be forever. This harmonizes with the ending chapters of Revelation that declares that there will be nations of people (possibly those saved during the millennium) living on the new earth, after death and hell are destroyed. For the leaves of the tree of life, in the Holy City will be used to heal those nations and keep them healthy forever ([Revelation 22:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+22.2&t=NKJV)). Apparently these nations will not have spiritual bodies but rather natural bodies; bodies that will have had to be changed from their bodies of death at the time of the destruction of the earth.

On the other hand, the spiritual body is reserved primarily for the church, God’s heavenly people with a heavenly calling. It will be this body that will one day shine as the sun; a body that will have the privilege of being co-heirs with Christ in His rule over the kingdom, and later over the universe of the billions of galaxies. However, in order for one to gain this spiritual body, he must have his spirit redeemed, his body redeemed and his soul redeemed. The spirit is redeemed the moment he believes on Jesus Christ. The body is redeemed at the rapture of the church, and the soul is redeemed at the Judgment Seat of Christ (or from “outer darkness” or Gehenna one thousand years later).