

## [Introduction] The Hope of Resurrection Gives Power for Life “Now”

- The climax of 1 Corinthians 15: from the resurrection of the dead to the promise of a glorious body.
  - The message of resurrection is not only for funerals or memorial services.
  - We will learn how Christ’s victory relates to us who are living here and now.
- 

## [Part 1] The Mystery of “Being Changed” (vv. 51–56)

### 1. “All” will be changed (vv. 51–52)

- **Mystery (mysterion):** a truth once hidden but now revealed by God.
- At Christ’s return, both the dead and the believers who are alive at that time will all be changed without exception.
- The “ultimate transformation” given to all Christians, regardless of spiritual immaturity or sin.

### 2. “In an instant” we will be changed (v. 52)

- **Atomos:** an indivisible moment, shorter than the blink of an eye.
- Beyond **sanctification** (growth in our walk) lies **glorification** (the change into our perfect state).
- There is no need to be discouraged by our shortcomings. The Lord will change us into a perfect state in an instant.

### 3. Changed “into the imperishable” (v. 53)

- From a body that weakens and dies to an “imperishable body” that will never decay again.
- “Must put on”: not a wish, but an absolute promise in God’s plan.
- We do not become a different person; rather, we ourselves will be clothed with a glorious body.

#### 4. A declaration against the victory of death (vv. 54–56)

- The relationship between death, sin, and the law: sin, the “sting” of death, and the power of the law that condemns sin, are nullified.
  - Christ’s resurrection solved not only the “symptom” of death, but also the “cause,” which is sin.
- 

#### [Part 2] “Thanks be to God” — The Response of Faith (v. 57)

- The “but” of reversal: God’s grace breaks into despair.
  - Victory in the present tense: a literal rendering of the Greek is, “the One who is giving us the victory.”
  - The victory of resurrection is both a future promise and something being given to us even now.
  - Let us walk in a life that cries out with Paul, “Thanks be to God.”
- 

#### [Part 3] “Therefore, Stand Firm Today” — The Call (v. 58)

- **Steadfast and immovable:** not swayed by false teaching or the values of the world, but standing firm in the faith of the resurrection.
  - **Abounding in the work of the Lord:** overflowing in “works of love,” the things that remain forever.
  - **Labor that is not in vain:** even works of love with no visible reward are seen by the Lord and will never be wasted.
- 

#### [Conclusion] Waiting for the Greatest Transformation

- One day we will undergo the “greatest transformation.” It is a hope that goes beyond our present weakness and decline.
- Let us not fix our eyes on our own imperfections, but on Christ’s victory.
- Let us turn thanksgiving into a way of life and spend this week abounding in works of love in the Lord.