

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS & US

PART 19 EPHESIANS CHAPTER ONE

Today we are going to try to and imagine the unimaginable ... to know the unknowable ... things beyond us here and now ...

Ephesians 1:19-20 **SLIDE**

*[¹⁸That you might know] what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working [energy] of his might [force] [&] power [strength] ²⁰ which he worked [energised] in Christ when **He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.*

At the crucifixion, Jesus' body died as every other human being's body dies.

NB: This only happened when Jesus let it happen after He had committed His Spirit into The Father's hands. (Luke 23:46)

HOWEVER, JESUS BODY WAS RAISED LIKE NO OTHER HUMAN BEING'S BODY HAD EVER BEEN RAISED

Jesus raised 3 people from the dead in His short 3-year ministry ...

- The Widow of Nain's Son (Luke 7:11-17)
- Jairus' Daughter (Luke 8:49-56)
- Lazarus (John 11:1-44)

HOWEVER, EACH ONE OF THESE LIVED TO DIE ANOTHER DAY

But the Resurrection of Jesus was different ...

JESUS CHRIST'S BODY WAS RAISED IN ANOTHER FORM

WHEN PAUL WRITES, '**He [God] RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD**' -

It wasn't simply coming alive out of the grave as He was before.

It meant far more ...

JESUS WAS RAISED A NEW KIND OF HUMAN ... A SUPER-HUMAN

Colossians 1:18 Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

... He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning [of a new human] and firstborn from among the dead, so that in all things He may have pre-eminence. (See also Rev 1:5)

Acts 26:23 KJV

*[²²Saying no other things than ...] ²³That Christ should suffer and that He should be **the first that should rise from the dead**, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.*

I Corinthians 15:20

*Now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become **the first-fruits** of those who have fallen asleep.*

Hebrews 7:16 **SLIDE**

*One who has become a priest [physical priest] not by a law of succession, but by **the power of an indestructible life**.*

indestructible (akatalytou) Indissoluble ... permanent

**NB: THIS IS NOT TALKING ABOUT JESUS' SPIRIT OR SOUL ...
HIS SPIRIT WAS ALREADY INDESTRUCTIBLE ...
THIS WAS ABOUT JESUS' PHYSICAL BODY!**

One commentator wrote about this verse -

[This is] not only the revivifying... resurrecting of His dead body, but the transformation of that body into a spiritual body ...

BUT I NEED TO TAKE THIS ANOTHER STEP FURTHER ...

To describe, this Raising of Jesus Body, Paul uses words such as **ENERGY, FORCE & POWER** -

Ephesians 1:19-20 **SLIDE**

*[¹⁸That you might know] what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working **[ENERGY]** of His might **[FORCE]** [**&**] **POWER** ²⁰ which He worked **[ENERGISED]** in Christ when He raised Him from the dead.*

- **The Working** = (energeian) **ENERGY** ... Working, action, in the NT, confined to **superhuman activity**. From energeis; **THE ENERGY**, SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITY
- **Might** = (ischyos) - **A NOUN NOT ADJECTIVE**; Strength (absolutely), power, might, force ... **THE FORCE**
- **Strength** = (kratous) **POWER**; a mighty deed; vigour.

PAUL USES 3 NOUNS TO TRY & DESCRIBE THIS EXPLOSIVE VERSE ...

SLIDE THE SUPERHUMAN ENERGY OF HIS [GOD'S] ABSOLUTE FORCE HE ENERGISED IN CHRIST WHEN HE RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD. [Ephesians 1:19-20 paraphrased]

QUANTUM THEORY

THESE ARE ALL SIGNIFICANT WORDS WHICH ARE NOW USED IN QUANTUM THEORY ALL THE TIME.

These words in quantum mechanics describe something being CHANGED FROM ONE STATE INTO ANOTHER STATE.

Quantum theory basically suggests that all physical matter is made up of energy called 'Quanta'

So, almost 2000 years before quantum theory was discovered, Paul was telling us about Quantum theory in relation to Christ's resurrection.

Quantum theory was discovered on 14 December 1900 by German physicist Max Planck

THERE'S A THEORY IN QUANTUM MECHANICS CALLED

2 SLIDES 'STRING THEORY'

It says if you have a length of string ... and cut it in half ... and then take one half and halve that again ... and keep doing this until you can't do it anymore ... there's a point when it becomes indivisible. This is 10 to the minus 33 centimetres.

SLIDE 10^{-33} CENTIMETRES

AT THIS POINT ALL SOLID MATTER CHANGES & BECOMES PURE ENERGY ... WHERE EVERY PHOTON INSTANTLY BECOMES UNITED WITH EVERY OTHER PHOTON IN THE UNIVERSE -
Everywhere at the same time.

Physicists say it loses the property called 'Locality'.

IT GOES BEYOND TIME & SPACE AND NOW EXISTS IN ANOTHER DIMENSION ...

*Now imagine you had the power to personally and instantly diminish all your photons, neutrons and electrons to this point ...
YOUR PHYSICAL BODY WOULD EXIST AS PURE ENERGY -*

You would exist in a different dimension ...

THIS IS WHAT I BELIEVE HAPPENED TO JESUS BODY WHEN HE WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD.

NB: THE WORD 'IN' - as '*which He worked [ENERGISED] IN Christ*' - ENERGY ENERGISED 'IN CHRIST' -

This energy was not only released 'into' Jesus to bring Him back to life, but Jesus actually had Energy released 'in Him'... in other words - HIS BODY BECAME PURE ENERGY!

GOD ENERGISED JESUS' BODY INTO PURE ENERGY

PAUL HAS SEEN THESE ALTERNATE DIMENSIONS

When Paul was taken to the third heaven, he saw that there are different dimensions which he could not explain due to our physical boundaries and limited understanding here.

STAR TREK'S 'BEAM ME UP SCOTTY

SLIDE THE TRANSPORTER created by Gene Roddenberry

The transporter could dematerialize entire humans (and other objects) and send their constituent particles to another destination where they would be perfectly reassembled.

THE LAUNCH WORD FOR THIS WAS 'ENERGISE',

And energy would be blasted onto the transportee who would dematerialise into digital information ...

There is no way we could transport a person as pure energy or digital information in reality ...

Yet, we read that Jesus actually did this at will after The Resurrection ...

SLIDE JESUS COULD APPEAR & DISAPPEAR AT WILL

In Luke 24:36-43 we read that **Jesus just appeared in the midst of the disciples. He stated **He was not just a phantom** but real flesh and blood. He showed them His hands and feet, and **said 'Touch me' - HE WAS SOLID MATTER.****

HE ALSO ATE ...

It wasn't magic, Jesus' body was now operating at a subatomic level and was able to pass between dimensions.

SLIDE JESUS WAS TRAVELLING BETWEEN DIMENSIONS.

3-dimensional space is bounded on 6 sides -

A floor, a ceiling and 4 walls.

Yet Jesus showed up in the middle of it without passing through any of the 6 sides ... (Luke 24:36 NIV *'While they were still talking about this, Jesus Himself stood among them ...'* See also John 20:19)

Luke 24:31 tells us that AT EMMAUS, JESUS VANISHED FROM THEIR SIGHT ...

HOW?

SLIDE GOD HAD RAISED JESUS' BODY AS A UNIQUE ENERGY THAT WAS ABLE TO EXIST IN A DIMENSION WITHOUT TIME OR DISTANCE ... AND YET HE COULD STEP INTO & FUNCTION IN THIS PHYSICAL-TIME DIMENSION ANYWHERE AT WILL ...

SHAPE SHIFTERS

Another Sci-fi phenomenon that was in Star Trek were beings called 'Shape-shifters' or 'Changelings'

THESE BEINGS COULD TAKE ON THE APPEARANCE OF ANOTHER PERSON e.g. *A WHITE MAN CAN APPEAR AS A BLACK MAN etc.*

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHY SO MANY OF THE DISCIPLES DIDN'T RECOGNISE JESUS AFTER ONLY A FEW DAYS OF NOT SEEING HIM?

MARY THOUGHT HE WAS THE GARDENER BECAUSE HE LOOKED LIKE A GARDENER

➤ John 20:15 NLT

"Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?" She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him."

It was only when Jesus spoke Mary's name (v 16) that she saw Him for who He was ... or rather, He revealed his former form to her.

THIS NEW SUPER-LIFE WAS NOT RESTRICTED TO ONE FORM OR ONE LOOK ...

- In Luke 24:15-16 The two disciples on the Emmaus road didn't recognise Jesus for that 12 km / 8-mile journey. It was only when He broke bread that He revealed Himself as they knew Him. (Luke 24:30-31)

You see Jesus was functioning at a subatomic level ... where the molecular-structure of His physical body could be altered at will.

WE WILL ALSO BE TRANSFIGURED

Philippians 3:21 Amplified Bible **SLIDE**

[Jesus] by exerting that power [Energy] which enables Him even to subject everything to Himself, will [not only] transform [but completely refashion] our earthly bodies so that they will be like His glorious resurrected body.

will transform (*metaschēmatischei*) From meta and schema; **to transfigure**

- HE WILL RECONSTITUTE OUR HUMAN BODY

2 Corinthians 5:4 Berean Study Bible

*So while we are in this tent, we groan under our burdens, because we do not wish to be unclothed but clothed, so that our mortality may be **swallowed up by life.***

WHAT ABOUT THE DEAD IN CHRIST

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 **SLIDE**

*Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed**⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed.***

will be changed (*allagēsometha*) To change, alter, exchange, transform.

Isaiah 26:19 Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

Your dead will live; their bodies will rise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in the dust! For your dew is like the dew of the morning, and the earth will bring forth her dead.

Though the bodies of the dead in Christ are but particles of dust, yet they will be changed to be like Christ's glorious body ...

Hosea 13:14

I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death ...

Matthew 24:31 Berean Study Bible

And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Isaiah 43:5-7 Berean Study Bible

Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east and gather you from the west ⁶ I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back!' Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth ⁷ everyone called by My name and created for My glory, whom I have indeed formed and made.

Paul prayed that we may know this ... by heart illumination
Every day we can be looking into this glorious magnificence ...
growing in greater wonder and astonishment ... caught up in the
drama of it ... the grandeur ... until we become overwhelmed ... and
we struggle to do our mundane work here.

We come to a place where we need His grace to keep our feet on
the ground ... so that we can keep doing our job here ...

This is how we should be living ...

This world is not our home.

Studying this ... I read the following quote Mike Daniel posted -

'Our hope as we move across the surface of temporal life, it is not in how solid the surface is that we see, but the depth beneath it we don't see.

Mike Q Daniel

NOW

Romans 8:11 **SLIDE**

*If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

We can learn to live by this energy within now ... Not to becoming glorious as Jesus' Resurrected Body was ... But Paul longed for this Resurrection power in his life here on earth –

Philippians 3:10 KJV

*That I may know him, and **the power of his resurrection**, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.* (See also verses 11-15)

May we focus on these Heavenly truths ...

SUPPLIMETARY

See [Colossians 1:29](#) which tells us Paul was energized with this energy to do the work of the ministry

Also, this energy equipped him - see [Ephesians 3:7](#).

And [Ephesians 4:16](#) says the Body of Christ is energized and connected by this power.

A hydrogen atom consists of a nucleus at its centre with electrons spinning around it ...

This is energy.

There is only empty space between the nucleus and the electrons. It is the action of these atoms that creates a solid object.

So we can see this physical world around us is really full of empty space ... the solid mass is created by moving energy.

You cannot put your hand through solid mass only because of the speed at which these electrons are spinning, creating this solid mass. When you touch it, there's a collision of the atoms of your hand and those of the solid mass that you touch ... which creates impact.

JESUS ASCENSION - Overcoming gravity ...

Jesus didn't physically rise into heaven ... He'd still be travelling now to get there physically ...

He rose into a cloud where He instantly stepped into the Heavenly-dimension.

'There is reason to believe, our universe is but a shadow of a larger reality'. (Article from Scientific America June 2005)