

**Life Group Notes**  
**Sunday 04 June 2017**

**Speaker:** Scott Taylor

**Passage:** 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

**Title:** The Day *IS* Coming

On Sunday, we looked at the climax of Paul's teaching on the resurrection and its significance. When considering this passage and how we apply it we need to ask what was Paul's confidence. Paul lived a life that was full on for the mission he had been called to by Jesus. Nothing seemed to be able to stop him, not prisons, not physical scarring, not exhaustion nor hunger. (See 2 Cor 11 v 24-29) What we see in these verses is where Paul's confidence coming – that because there resurrection has happened, he is certain that a day *IS* coming!!!

The perishable cannot inherit the imperishable: Paul starts with a reminder that when Christ comes back and wraps up human history as we understand it, then a transaction will take place. For those who have followed Jesus in this life, each one will be given a resurrection body that is imperishable. This is so they can inherit the Kingdom of God. That's going to happen if we have died before he returns or if we are alive. He says, in the twinkling of an eye it will happen. The very earth on which we live is also perishable right now, we can observe that, but it is waiting until the sons of men receive their glory, their renewed imperishable bodies!!! So Paul is saying this isn't just about us and us getting our bodies, but there is a far more significant renewing going on. The whole universe will be made perfect and be renewed and made imperishable once we have been dealt with.

Why must this happen? So that it can be declared once and for all "Death is swallowed up in victory!!!" A reference here to Isaiah 25 v 6-9. A day is coming when God is going to swallow up death in victory as we sit and eat at the banquet table of rich foods and well-aged wine!! And we shall look on and declare the praises of our God. (Isaiah 25 v 9). The declaration will be 'Death where is your victory, death where is you sting?' This will be declared when we receive the imperishable. This happens because in the imperishable the sting of death – sin is destroyed it is nullified, it is defeated. The wages of sin are death, the resurrection promises life. The power of sin is the law, because there is something in us that when we see the law, we rise to rebel against it. We do not know we are sinning until we know what we should or shouldn't do! A day *IS* coming!

The perishable cannot inherit the imperishable and we must be transformed, so that we can inherit our place where sin and the effects of sin cannot be. The renewed earth and heavens where we will dwell with God forever. A Day is coming is what motivates Paul and so he says to the Corinthians and us – "Therefore, my beloved brothers (and sisters), be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord, your labour is not in vain." This is how Paul lived and indeed how Jesus lived, so let's be motivated by the day that *IS* coming and stay steadfast, immovable abounding in the works of the LORD!!

**Suggested application and questions**

- 1) What did you hear on Sunday that was new or a fresh reminder for you?
- 2) What would it mean for you to be steadfast and immovable?
- 3) It says we should be abounding in the works of the Lord – what does abounding mean and what does that mean for us?
- 4) What works of the Lord are you involved in?