

## STEWARDSHIP OF BODY

SCRIPTURES: Genesis 39  
 Luke 16:1-13  
 Romans 8  
 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

MEMORIZE: 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

There are two extreme views regarding the body. The first takes the position that the body is all there is. What we call “mind” or “spirit” is only an accidental arrangement of chemical and electrical properties, giving us the illusion of rational thought. All existence ends with the death of the body. Those who hold this viewpoint, believe that life may be terminated if it does not possess quality, making it worth preserving. They would support abortion, euthanasia, infanticide, suicide and mercy killings.

The other extreme believes that the body is a mere shell in which the real “you” lives. You are trapped in this prison until released by death. You and your body are not identical. Some Christians come close to expressing this view.

The biblical truth is that your body and your soul are the real “you.” You are an integrated person: body, soul and spirit. You are not a complete functioning person unless you are in the body. Separation from the body is temporary for both the believer and the unbeliever—John 5:29. To be disembodied is not a desirable condition—2 Corinthians 5:4.

A balanced view will have an important impact on your Christian experience. If your body is a “throw-away package” you will treat it differently than if it is a permanent part of your identity.

1. Compare the stewardship of Joseph in Genesis 39 and the unrighteous steward in Luke 16:1-13 in reference to the body.

## PRESENT CONDITION

2. What is the body’s present status as it relates to redemption? Romans 8:18-28
3. What is the body’s present condition? Romans 8:10. What does that mean?

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4. What practical problem does this create in Christian living? Romans 7:22-25

### **FUTURE PROSPECT**

5. What is our hope for the body in the future? Romans 8:11, 23-25

6. How does such a hope affect our lives? Romans 8:24, 25

7. What will happen to the Christian's body at the resurrection?

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Philippians 3:20, 21

1 John 3:1-3

8. List the stages in our redemption as found in Romans 8:29, 30.

9. At which stage are we now?

10. What is the final stage of redemption?

**PRESENT CONDUCT—STEWARDSHIP OF BODY**

11. Give six reasons why the body is important.  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20

12. Give three reasons why immorality is wrong.  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20

13. How does Romans 12:1 relate to bodily stewardship?

14. How often do you have to make such a decision? Romans 12:1

15. How does physical discipline relate to bodily stewardship? 1 Timothy 4:8;  
1 Corinthians 9:24-27

16. In what other areas do you think good stewardship should affect the body?

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17. What are some biblical goals in bodily stewardship?

Philippians 1:20

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Romans 6:13

18. Write an essay regarding your view of the body. Include how the resurrection enters into that view. Make several applications as to how you will apply these things in your own life.