

Surprised by Hope
Chapter 10 Study Questions
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Please read chapter 10, and answer these questions as you read.

Chapter 10

- I. Wright interacts with Romans 8:9-11. What does the passage suggest about our bodies in the resurrection? Do you draw any other conclusions from this passage?
Romans 8:9–11 (NRSV): But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

- II. What does John 5:25-29 indicate in the resurrection?
John 5:25–29 (NRSV): Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

- III. What do you imagine the resurrection of life and resurrection of condemnation will be like? (I suspect Wright will address this in a future chapter but offer your perspectives here.)
- IV. How does Wright explain the brigand in Luke 23 and Jesus' statement that that day they will be together in paradise?
- V. The author uses the example of keeping beer for someone in the fridge. The person doesn't have to crawl into the fridge to take advantage of it. He uses this to explain our riches stored up in heaven. What are the senses of heaven Wright relates to this?

VI. In part 3 (Resurrection in Corinth), Wright describes the resurrection body as having a new mode of physicality. How does he describe it?

VII. In Part 5 (Rethinking resurrection today...), who does Wright indicate will be raised? Where will it happen? Won't there be overcrowding? Again, what will the bodies be like?

This study guide is written to guide study and discussions of *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* by N. T. Wright. The full set of study guides is available at <https://livingintograce.com/2022/02/21/study-guide-questions-for-surprised-by-hope-rethinking-heaven-the-resurrection-and-the-mission-of-the-church-by-n-t-wright/>. While based on the book, this guide was not prepared in cooperation with the author, N. T. Wright, nor the publishers (SPCK and HarperOne).



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