

# 1 Corinthians 15:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

## Analysis

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**It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory** (σπείρεται ἐν ἀτιμίᾳ, ἐγείρεται ἐν δόξῃ)—The word *atimia* (ἀτιμία, "dishonor, humiliation, disgrace") describes the indignity of death and burial—bodily functions cease, decay begins, corpse must be hidden in earth. *Doxa* (δόξα, "glory, radiance, splendor") describes resurrection body sharing Christ's glory (Philippians 3:21: 'he will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body').

**It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power** (σπείρεται ἐν ἀσθενείᾳ, ἐγείρεται ἐν δυνάμει)—The noun *astheneia* (ἀσθενεία, "weakness, frailty, infirmity") encompasses physical limitations, fatigue, vulnerability. Death is ultimate weakness—total cessation of strength. *Dynamis* (δύναμις, "power, strength, capability") describes resurrection vitality—bodies empowered for eternal service, never tiring or weakening (Revelation 7:15-17).

## Historical Context

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Ancient honor-shame cultures understood death as supreme dishonor—the body, once animated image of God, becomes lifeless flesh requiring disposal. Paul promises reversal: the humiliated body will be glorified, the weakened body empowered. This addresses Greek disdain for the body and offers Christian countervision—embodiment perfected, not escaped.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does the dishonor-to-glory transformation vindicate the goodness of embodied existence?
2. What 'power' will resurrection bodies possess—what will we be empowered to do?
3. How should hope for glorified bodies shape how we treat our present weak, dishonored bodies?

## Interlinear Text

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σπείρεται	ἐν	ἀτιμία	ἐγείρεται	ἐν	δόξῃ·	σπείρεται	ἐν
<b>It is sown</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>dishonour</b>	<b>it is raised</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>glory</b>	<b>It is sown</b>	<b>in</b>
G4687	G1722	G819	G1453	G1722	G1391	G4687	G1722
ἀσθενεία	ἐγείρεται	ἐν	δυνάμει·				
<b>weakness</b>	<b>it is raised</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>power</b>				
G769	G1453	G1722	G1411				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Colossians 3:4** (Glory): When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

**2 Corinthians 13:4** (Parallel theme): For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.

**Daniel 12:1** (Parallel theme): And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at

that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

**Philippians 3:10** (Resurrection): That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

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