

Does a Christian violate scripture when he wills his body for scientific use?

The use of the physical body after death is one of those topics that is highly debated amongst Christians. Some view that donating a body to be used by science desecrates the body that is a gift of God and is indicative of desecrating God in whose likeness and image we have been made.

1. What is to take place when the body dies?

2 Corinthians **5:6-8**

2 Samuel **2:4-5**

1 Samuel **31:12-13**

Ecclesiastes **12:5-7**

Ezekiel **39:11-15**

Hebrews **9:27**

When death occurs, there is a separation of the body and the spirit. The spirit is sent to stand before God for final judgment. The body is generally buried. Both the wicked and the righteous are wicked. On occasion the body may be burned by fire. Those who are burned by fire include the righteous (Jonathan) and the wicked (Saul). The important thing is what happens to the soul upon death.

2. Does the physical separation of the body into parts impact the resurrection?

1 Thessalonians **4:16-17**

Luke **13:1-5**

Hebrews **10:30-31**

Revelation **20:12-15**

John **5:26-29**

Ezekiel **18:4**

The scriptures guarantee that there WILL be a resurrection of the just and the unjust. There is nothing in scripture that indicates that it is possible for anyone to escape the final judgment of God.

3. Does a physical destruction of the body alter the type of bodily resurrection?

John **14:6**

Romans **6:4-5**

John **10:27-29**

The status of a person's resurrection (for life or for condemnation) cannot be changed by anybody. Once a person has faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ, his future resurrection status is guaranteed.

4. What does God want us to do with our bodies?

Romans **12:1-2**

1 Peter 3:10-11

Hebrews 13:16

1 Corinthians **6:15-20**

James 4:17

Mark **3:4-5**

We are called by God to view our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit of God and are to be used in connection with God's calling upon us. Our lives are to be lived as a sacrifice unto God. Since we are called to live as sacrifices, there is no dishonor in dying as a sacrifice. God calls us to do good. If donating our body to scientific research can do good, then there is nothing wrong with doing so.