

# The Heavenly One and the Heavenly Ones 1 Cor. 15:47-49

by John Nelson Darby

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*The sermon explains the difference between earthly and heavenly Christians, and how we can manifest Christ in our lives.*

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 15:47

**Topics:** "Transformation in Christ", "Heavenly Identity"

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## Description

John Nelson Darby expounds on 1 Corinthians 15:47-49, emphasizing the distinction between the earthly nature of Adam and the heavenly nature of Christ. He explains that just as we are born of Adam, we are also to be transformed into the likeness of Christ, reflecting His glory and character. Darby highlights that our current state in Christ allows us to experience a heavenly existence, even while on earth, and that this transformation characterizes a group of believers known as the 'perfect.' He encourages Christians to realize their identity in Christ and to manifest His nature in their lives.

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## Transcript

(Words in Season, Vol. 4, 1890, page 103.)

I do not see any difficulty in 1 Cor. 15:47-49. Ek is the source, hence characterises a thing in its nature. Ek pneumatatos, e.g., so ex ouranon. One man is earthy dust, the other from heaven. It is not apo, merely, that He came thence. Then verse 48: as we are all what fallen Adam was, so our place, as in Christ, is to be just like Christ; and as we have carried this in manifestation as Adam's children, so we shall be manifested just such as Christ Himself, as Man. It is the source, and so character, nature, and constituted condition, and then manifested form. Of course, we have to realise it now we are in Christ, sitting in heavenly places in Him. As He is, so are we also, in this world.

This characterises a class of Christians the "perfect," as contrasted with forgiven children of Adam. But the state of the affections is not the subject here (1 Cor. 15), but to be in glory like Christ acts on them now and here.

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