

Embodiment: Theological Consideration of the Body

*God cares about our bodies.
How we think about and treat our bodies matters to him.*

What is a theology of the body?

- Scripture addresses the body.
- The Triune God affirms the body.
- Every major doctrine involves the body.

What is embodiment?

- Humans are unified, yet distinct immaterial and material beings.
- God designed embodied humans with a psychosomatic connection.
- Made male and female as God's embodied image-bearers expected to fulfill his creation commands.

Image of God and the body

- Living being when immaterial and material coalesce
- Soul and body equally bear God's image
- Applies to male and female
- Creation commands connected to image-bearing
- Jesus Christ is the image of God
- God's image restored in us through Christ by the Spirit
- Embodied image-bearers fully restored in glorification

1 Corinthians 6:12-20: Paul's 10 arguments for the body

- Bodies are the Lord's.
- Bodies can be devoted to sins that enslave you and dishonor the Lord.
- Bodies are meant for the Lord.
- Bodies will be raised.
- Bodies are members of Christ.
- Bodies are joined with the Lord.
- Bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.
- Bodies are owned by God.
- Bodies and souls redeemed by Christ's atonement.
- Bodies are instruments of glorifying God.

Paul grounds the body's value in the Godhead.

- Resurrection (v. 14)
- Redemption (v. 20)
- Indwelling (v. 19)