

The Resurrection

I. The Resurrection:

- A. The death of Jesus Christ. He was nailed to the cross around nine in the morning. His crucifixion is made up of two different events. From 9 AM to 12 noon, several things happened to Jesus Christ.

He spoke during the period of light:

1. To His mother: “woman behold your son.”
2. To John at bottom of the cross: “behold your mother.”
3. To one of the two criminals: “Today you shall be with me in Paradise.”
4. To His Heavenly Father: “Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.”

Now darkness at noon

5. Jesus Christ spoke out to God the Father during darkness while bearing the judgment for the sins of all mankind: “My God, My God, Why Hast thou Forsaken Me.”
6. After having completed bearing the judgment of sin, He spoke out: “I am Thirsty.”
7. Having rejected the thirst and having paid for the judgement: “Father into thy Hands I commit My spirit.”
8. Jesus spoke out for the last time with His Father “Thou hast Ransomed Me, O Lord, God of truth’ Psalm 31:5

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- B. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and were terrified, then exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God.” Matthew 27:54
- C. The soldiers came to break the legs of the three persons being crucified. But, coming to Jesus, they did not break His legs but instead pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, causing a flow of blood and water out of His side. John 19:32-3
- D. The Burial of Jesus. As evening approached, it was time to bury Jesus. A man named Joseph of Arimathea came to Pilate and asked to take the body of Jesus for burial. He was given authority to take Jesus’ body. He had his friend Nicodemus help wash off the dead body and put clean cloth on Jesus and place Him in a new tomb. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb. John 19:38-42
- E. What is so interesting now is that all eleven of the disciples went away that evening. But the women who came with Jesus out of Galilee came to watch the place of the tomb and planned to return after Sabbath.
- F. The Resurrection – Jesus rose from the dead from the grave sometime after 6 PM Saturday.
- G. Saturday night into early morning Sunday. On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women who had been present at His burial, came with spices they prepared and came to the tomb. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. They entered the tomb, but it was empty. As they stood there, two men came next to the ladies and said to the ladies “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!” They went to the eleven disciples and told them of these things. What is important is that Peter is said by

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name to join the others and move toward Jesus. Not much time before, Peter had denied Jesus and was broken in his own heart. Now Jesus wanted Peter to know that he is forgiven. So, Jesus is said to have moved to Peter very quickly in the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:5...and He appeared to Cephas (Peter) then to the twelve. Peter and John ran to the tomb and went into the tomb. They saw Jesus was no longer in the tomb.

II. Definition of terms

There are two returns from the dead.

A. The first return of people from the dead is called resuscitation. Resuscitation is when a person returns from the dead in a body of corruption and subsequently dies. This is not resurrection. Lazarus did this. Jesus said to Lazarus, ‘Lazarus here, outside’ and he had been in the grave for several days. He came out wrapped in his grave clothes. They unwrapped him and he was resuscitated. He was alive, and subsequently died again. The same thing is true of Paul. Paul in Lystra was buried under a rock pile. He was stoned to death, and then later he was brought back from the dead. According to I Corinthians 15, he was brought back from the dead once more. So, we have people brought back from the dead under resuscitation. Elijah resuscitated a boy. Elisha also resuscitated a boy. They brought them back from the dead. So, resuscitation is the first of the two returns from the dead.

B. The second return is resurrection in which a person returns from the dead with a body of incorruption, therefore never

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again subject to death. And so far, only one person in all history has been resurrected, and that, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Therefore, resurrection is rising again from the dead in a human body, never again to be subject to death. Every person who believed in Jesus Christ as savior waits for their own resurrection.
2. Resurrection is therefore one of the basic doctrines which all believers must understand for spiritual growth.

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,

Hebrews 6:2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and about the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

III. The resurrection is a part of the gospel.

1 Corinthians 15:1 Now I make known to you, brothers and sisters, the gospel which I preached to you, which you also received, in which you also stand,

1 Corinthians 15:2 by which you also are saved, if you hold firmly to the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

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1 Corinthians 15:3 For I handed down to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

1 Corinthians 15:4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

IV. The importance of the resurrection related to faith in Christ is given in 1 Corinthians 15:12-17

1 Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

1 Corinthians 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised;

1 Corinthians 15:14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain, your faith also is in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:15 Moreover, we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.

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1 Corinthians 15:16 For if the dead are not raised, then not even Christ has been raised;

1 Corinthians 15:17 and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

In that passage it indicates how useless it would be to believe in Christ unless He has risen from the dead. This, of course, becomes a phrase of deductive reasoning: omitting the resurrection from the gospel and its significance, faith would be in vain. But since Christ actually rose from the dead, faith in Christ is not in vain.

- V. The resurrection emphasizes the difference between Theophany and Christophany. A Theophany is an appearance of Jesus Christ prior to the incarnation, that is prior to the first advent. Jesus Christ appeared as an angel. He appeared as a man visiting Abraham in his tent, and then going on to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. He appeared as a wrestler defeating the world's champion Jacob and permanently making him lame. The Christophany on the other hand is entirely different. A Christophany is an appearance of Jesus after His Resurrection from the dead, illustrated by Mark 15:9-14; Luke 24:13-43; Acts 2:32
- VI. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is part of victory on the angelic conflict.

1 Corinthians 15:20 but now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.

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1 Corinthians 15:21 For since by a man death came, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,

1 Corinthians 15:24 then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to our God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

1 Corinthians 15:25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

In this passage we have a statement of documentation. But now, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. The soul never sleeps, only the body sleeps. The word sleep is used for believers who have died before the rapture and before the resurrection. The point is that the body is asleep waiting to be awakened by resurrection. The soul never sleeps in the presence of the Father. For since by man came death, that is the first Adam, he sinned, by man came also the resurrection from the dead that is the last Adam or the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then to amplify in verse 22, **For as in Adam all die**, (spiritual death) **so also in Christ shall all be made alive.** If you're Adam, you're spiritually dead, but if you're Christ you're alive forever more.

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- VII. The resurrection is necessary for the perpetuation of the line of David and the fulfillment of the Davidic covenant,

Romans 1:3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh,

Romans 1:4 who was declared the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

You will notice that resurrection is related to two deaths, Christ died twice on the cross. He died spiritually bearing our sins. He died physically because His work was finished. He is said to be resurrected from the deaths.

- VIII. The resurrection of Christ indicates completion of the ministry of justification.

Romans 4:25 He who was delivered over because of our wrongdoings, and was raised because of our justification (because justification was completed on the cross, God the Father was free to resurrect Jesus three days later. Justification was accomplished first.)

- IX. The three members of the Godhead worked together to cause Jesus to be resurrected.

A. The first agent is God the Father: Colossians. 2:12;
1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 Peter 1:21; Galatians 1:1.

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- B. God the Holy Spirit was also involved in the resurrection:
Romans 1:4; 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 8:11
- C. And Jesus Christ Himself: John 10:11-18
- X. The resurrection is necessary for the advance of the Plan of God the Father.

Isaiah 53:10b ‘He will see His offspring; He will prolong His days (this by the resurrection) and the Good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand.’ (this is the hand of Christ in resurrection.)

God the Father’s plan advances through the resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is a critical factor in history.

- XI. The grace of God and the resurrection.

There could be no greater monument for the grace of God than the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:50-57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- XII. The resurrection of Christ is the basis for the believer’s confidence in the future.

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of

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Jesus Christ from the deaths, (deaths—plural: spiritual death and physical death on the cross)

1 Peter 1:4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

1 Peter 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Now add:

1 Peter 1:21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the deaths (spiritual death and physical) and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

So both your faith and hope, your confidence of the future, your confidence in time, is related to the fact of resurrection.

XIII. The first resurrection occurs in four orders or echelons or battalion review. The Greek word used in 1 Corinthians 15 is *taxis* and can refer to order, nature, orderly manner or regiment, legion or battalion. The review stand has God the Father. The various orders will march by for review by the God the Father.

A. The first company to walk by is known as Alpha company. Alpha company is Jesus Christ. He is the first to be in Resurrection. He is the first in Resurrection body and He is known as the first fruits. Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; Acts 2:31-34

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- B. Bravo company is next to march in front of God the Father. It will be the Church at the rapture.
- C. Charlie company comprises believers in the Jewish age. This includes Jews and Gentiles throughout the Old Testament. And all those Jews and Gentile believers of the Tribulation. Study Daniel 12:13; Isaiah 26:19-30; Matthew 24:31; and Revelation 20:4
- D. And the last to rise up out of the Resurrection is Delta company. Those in this resurrection will be the Millennial saints.