

Resurrection

Previous Points:

- I. Biblical Definition
- II. The Sovereignty of God and Physical death.
- III. Resurrection in the Word of God

This morning, we continue with the fourth major point in “Resurrection.”

- IV. Importance of Physical Death as a Prerequisite for Resurrection.

This taught in 1 Corinthians chapter 15.

1 Corinthians 15:50 Now I say this, brothers that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God: nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

1 Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

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1 Corinthians 15:53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable and this mortal must put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, ‘Death is swallowed up victory.

Also covered last week were

1. Verse 50
2. Verse 51
3. Verse 52
4. Verse 53
5. Verse 54
6. Verse 55

Verse 55-56 Resurrection is the Lord’s Victory

1 Corinthians 15:55 O death where is your victory? O death where is your sting?”

The only victory is God’s victory of resurrection. Death has no victory The sting of death is given in 56,

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7. Verse 56

**1 Corinthians 15:56: The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the Law;**

- a. Sin, here, the imputation of Adam's sin a physical birth, has two results: real spiritual death and subsequent physical death. This is in compliance with Genesis 2:17, in which God warned Adam, 'The day you eat from this tree, dying thou shalt die.'
- b. So the sting of death is the natural sin nature.
- c. The fact that you sin after salvation does not prevent you from dying and going to heaven and receiving a resurrection body.
- d. If sin has a power, it must be defined. The Mosaic Law defines and reveals personal sin. Study 1 Timothy 1:8-10.

8. Verse 57, The Grace of God and Resurrection

- a. There could be no greater monument to the grace of God than Resurrection.

**1 Corinthians 15:57 'but grace belongs
to God' "but thanks to God who gives
to us the victory through our Lord
Jesus Christ.**

- b. Notice that this is a victory which God gives to us!!! It's not a victory we earned! You can earn a victory by becoming a mature believer! But there's one victory you cannot have, it is a gift – the resurrection body, the resurrection body is a monument to God's victory.

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- c. God's grace gives to all believers a resurrected body. Resurrection is strictly God's victory, strictly the work of God.
- d. Here is another reason why no Old Testament believer was resurrected. For until our Lord went to the cross and achieved the victory of the cross, no one could be resurrected. He could not be resurrected until He became true humanity at the virgin birth. In other words, God could never give a victory that had not yet been attained. Jesus Christ died physically on the cross, was resurrected, ascended and sat at the right hand of God the Father. At that point the victory was completed. That was the victory over the Angelic Conflict. Now it was a victory to give not only to us but also to all the Old Testament saints at the Second Advent.
- e. The positive believer through post-salvation assimilation of Biblical truth can have control over his life.
- f. But this, his biblical control, ends at the point of his physical death. No believer has any control over the time or manner of his physical death, nor over the time or manner of his resurrection.
- g. The victory is the resurrection of the Church Age believer at the Rapture.
- h. You will be at the resurrection! The carnal believer, the believer who lives in sin against God, this believer will receive a resurrection body at that Rapture, as will every believer who lives in line with the Plan of God, they each and everyone will receive resurrection bodies.

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- i. The Resurrection is neither earned nor deserved nor lost due to one's life. It is given to all Church Age believers at the rapture.
- j. On verse 57, the phrase '**Through our Lord Jesus Christ**' means the Lord belongs to every believer, He is our Lord whether we are winners or losers in our lives.

Summary of Grace and Resurrection

1. Grace is illustrated by the resurrection or rapture of the church as declared in Philippians 3:20 **For our citizenship is in heaven.**
2. Just as the grace policy of God has provided everything the believer needs for time, the grace of God provides everything the believer needs for dying, especially for his resurrection.
3. Believers as winners and losers receive resurrected bodies exactly like that of our Lord. How you live as a believer, good or bad has no effect on your resurrection. Think about this! Think about the power of Jesus Christ! Think about it. How it is not effected by how we live. All that it impacts is how we think about Jesus Christ.
4. Hence, resurrection is strictly the grace of God! Strictly the Lord's victory. Isn't that wonderful! Of anyone, everyone! That's why 1 Corinthians 15:57 says "**thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**"
5. The Resurrection is the Lord's wise and perfect decision, and is not subject to man's speculations or even man's timetable. The Rapture is imminent because there is no prophecy to be fulfilled before it occurs. However, the actual time of the rapture is God's decision, not our decision.

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6. The victory of the resurrection is patterned after the resurrection of the humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord's victory of resurrection is given to every Church Age believer.
7. Remember every believer, winner or loser will receive a resurrection body at the Rapture.

Back to our main outline.

9. Verse 58 Your challenge in application of the Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

- a. The key at the end of this teaching is the word *steadfast*. In the Greek this is *ginomai*, which means to become something you were not before! Here is the point: we have no control over our death and resurrection – we do have control over our lives now as alive. We have the freedom to *press on to maturity*. This is the wonder of the freedom we have here in America—to use your freedom to be *steadfast* in Christ. You have the right to learn doctrine and use it in your Christian life.
- b. The danger in our lives is found in the warning: *not distracted*. Distractions are anything you put before the learning Bible doctrine, before pressing on to spiritual maturity.
- c. **Always abounding.** This means always going forward making an impact in your spiritual life.

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- d. **In your work/toil.** Refers to your daily life, what is important in the word of God, daily perception of Bible doctrine in your spiritual life.

V. Resurrection and the Omnipotence of God.

- a. Christ died twice on the cross that we might be born twice. He died spiritually to provide salvation. He died physically, because His work was finished. Our first birth is natural generation, in which God the Father creates human life and imputes it to the soul, at birth. The second birth is regeneration, by which God the Holy Spirit creates from His omnipotence a human spirit for the imputation of eternal life by God the Father. In both the first and second births, the omnipotence of God is involved.
- b. The power that sustained Christ on the cross and endured the sins and resurrected Christ from the dead is the same power that now makes it available to every believer to glorify Jesus Christ.
- c. The Omnipotence of God the Father in the physical death of our Lord had a trichotomous power in the separation. His body went into the grave. His human spirit went into the presence of God the Father in the third heaven. His human soul went into hades where the demons have been incarcerated since Genesis chapter 6 with the infiltrating women of the earth.
- d. When we die, our soul and spirit go into the presence of the Lord in the third heaven accompanied by Christ who indwelt with us. For we are said to be *‘absent from the body and face to face with the Lord.’* So there is no splitting up of the soul and spirit in the death of the

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believer. But the Lord's physical death was unique. Being face to face implies that we have a recognizable 'interim' body in heaven until the rapture.

- e. Our Lord's body was in the grave for three days and three nights. This is verified in the Word of God in Matthew 12:40.
- f. When the work of salvation was finished our Lord said to the Father, "Father, into thy hands I dismiss My spirit." Luke 23:46, "the Spirit went into the presence of the Father."
- g. He said to the dying thief on the cross with Him in Luke 23:43, "Today you shall be with Me in Paradise". His division in His death is laid out in Psalm 16:10 and Acts 2:27.
- h. His Soul went down in Hades and according to 1 Peter 3:18-21 the Holy Spirit guarded the soul of our Lord in Hades. And the soul of our Lord went down to Tartarus, and there He made the victorious proclamation to the fallen angels.
- i. Just as our Lord's spiritual death was unique, He was judged for all our sins, so His physical death was unique; He had a trichotomous separation.
- j. God the Father is said to be the agent of the resurrection, Ephesians 1:20 and Colossians 2:12, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, Romans 6:4 and 1 Peter 1:21 all say **"God the Father raised Him from the dead."**
- k. But Scripture also says that Holy Spirit raised Him from the dead, as in Acts 2:24; Romans 1:4; Romans 8:11, and

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1 Peter 3:18. So God the Holy Spirit is also the agent of His Resurrection.

1. The Omnipotence of God the Father sent our Lord's human spirit through billions of light years of space to His body in the tomb. Simultaneously, the Omnipotence of the Holy Spirit returned His human soul from Hades to His body. Rejoined in the resurrection body, our Lord walked through the stone in the garden. Later an angel rolled away the stone so that the world could see and verify the miraculous resurrection.

There is so much people talk about today, and speak of what is happening in the world. But to us, the occurrence we are studying is far more important. A study of the Judges, under Kit challenges us to be silent and learn what God is doing and why. Pressing on to maturity is far more important to us, for us and with us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ

- m. Ephesians 1:20 and Colossians 3:2

Ephesians 1:20 Which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth

And finally at

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Phil. 3:10 that (by His Word) I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.

- n. Jesus Christ could have used His own Omnipotence at the cross, or his own power in His resurrection, He could have omnipotence at the cross, or His resurrected but instead He depended upon the Omnipotence of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. This is so important in

John 10:17: For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it back.

John 10:18 No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it back. This commandment I received from My Father.”

Jesus Christ surrendered His human spirit to the Father in heaven and His soul to the Holy Spirit. The humanity of Christ had the power to surrender His own life by means He depended on the Omnipotence of the Holy Spirit and God the Father.

- o. During the crucifixion and the resurrection the deity of Christ was still holding the universe together. Colossians 1:16 For by Him all things were created...and He is before all things and in Him all things bold together.

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And in Hebrews 1:3...and upholds all things by the word of His power.

p. The power of resurrection

Our Lord had the power and authority to receive His life again. This authority or power came from the Omnipotence of God Father who restored our Lord's human spirit to His body and restore our Lord's soul to His body. At that moment the human spirit and soul of our Lord rejoined His body in the grave through the agency of the Omnipotence of God and the humanity of Christ was resurrected.

At that moment He walked through the solid stone of His tomb, and Christ was resurrected. His resurrected body is designed to show it can walk between the space of molecules.

q. The identical Omnipotence of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit that raised Christ from the dead is the same power that has been provided for us in Grace to execute the Spirit-Filled Life. The Omnipotence is now available to us in the Plan of God for your life to glorify Jesus Christ.

r. Never before in history has so much Divine Omnipotence been available to so many believers for the fulfillment of the Plan of God. You have available to you the greatest power! It is yours by faith through Grace.

s. The Omnipotence of God will provide a resurrected body for all who are alive on the earth at that time.

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- t. Therefore, the victory of resurrection is given to every believer in Jesus Christ regardless of Christian life.
- u. Since resurrection is the Lord's victory every believer will spend eternity in the presence of God in Resurrection bodies. 1 John 5:11-12.
- v. The power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is the same power that provides eternal security for every believer. (winner or loser)
- w. The Resurrection of Christ indicates the Completion of the ministry of Justification. Romans 4:25.
- x. The Agents of the Resurrection of Christ.
God the Father: Colossians 2:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 1 Peter 1:21. Hebrews 13:20.
God the Holy Spirit: Acts 2:24; Romans 1:4; 8:11; I Peter 3:18.
Christ Himself: John 10:17-18.
- y. Resurrection of Christ is the Basis for the believers Confidence in the Future. 1 Peter 1:3-5; Philippians. 3:21.