

Last Sunday: Paul answered the questions of some in the Church at Corinth who denied the resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:12

There were deniers of the resurrection in Jesus' day, Paul's day, and there are MANY in our day who deny the resurrection of the dead, most specifically the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

But beloved of God, the Biblical facts and "eyewitness testimonies" of the apostles, several women, and of above 500 brethren, (who all saw Jesus alive after His death) teach us otherwise.

Acts 1:3: Jesus "shewed Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them (His apostles) forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God"

The truth is, YOU, Christian, in that you have been "made alive" and raised from "spiritual death"; YOU are proof that Jesus rose (ALIVE) from the dead. How so?

If the Lord Jesus didn't rise from the dead, you would still be dead in your trespasses and sins. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, you would still be the devil's captive; you would still be a prisoner under the power of darkness and enslaved to your sins.

If Jesus did not rise from the dead, every one of us is still in danger of the wrath of God, which is to come; we're still estranged from God and at enmity against Him. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, God was not satisfied with His sacrifice or His blood, and to this date, there is no atonement for your sins, you will perish. 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

But the fact is, Christ IS risen from the dead, and YOU, Christian, are living proof of that truth! You NO LONGER love your sins like you used to love them when you were dead in your sins! Now you hate your sins! You NO LONGER serve the god of this world, like you did when you were lost, you're STILL in the world, but you are no longer of it!

If you're born again by the Spirit of God, you have been raised to life by the power of God! The only way that THAT could ever come to pass in your life is if Christ rose ALIVE from the dead!

DEATH came upon all of us by the FIRST ADAM, but now LIFE comes to all who turn from their sins to Christ, the SECOND ADAM!

Salvation would not be possible if Christ, the 2nd Adam failed to rise from the grave! John 11:25-26

How else could "DEAD SINNERS HEAR THE GOSPEL" unless they are first raised from spiritual death! Ephesians 2:1, 4-5, Colossians 2:13

Sin and death are major problems for every human born into this world: Sin brought death on (2) fronts to all of Adam's posterity.

Every human born into this world is born spiritually dead, estranged from God and at enmity against Him because of their sin. But there is also the curse of physical death. Romans 5:12.

God warned Adam of DEATH if he disobeyed His command in the Garden of Eden.

If there be no resurrection from the dead, death is final! Whose fault is sin and the fall which brought death to all of humanity? It's your fault and mine. You say, NO, it's Adam's fault!

The scriptures teach that when Adam sinned, you and I sinned, and that is because Adam represented all of humanity! Herein is the doctrine of Federal Headship. What is that?

The Holy Scriptures teach that there are (2) Federal Heads: Adam and Christ. (The 1st Adam and the 2nd Adam).

Both ACTED on the behalf of others; those whom they represent are (in the scriptures) said to be "IN" them. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22, Romans 5:12-21

Everyone is born into this world IN ADAM; only those that turn from their sins to Christ and are saved are IN CHRIST!

Your salvation, Christian, is not only from your sins and from Satan's captivity, but you will also be saved from death!

1 Corinthians 15:26, Isaiah 25:7-9, Hosea 13:9-14

1 Corinthians 15:20-22: Back to Genesis, I want you to understand how death came to us all.

In the beginning, when God created man, He created Him in His own image and likeness. Adam was a living soul, there was no death associated with Adam (or with Eve his wife) after God created them on the 6th day of creation: Genesis 1:26-28, 2:7, 1:31

Adam and Eve were alive in every way; there was no sin in them, their understanding was not darkened, there were no evil thoughts in their minds toward each other or God, there was no enmity between God and Adam/Eve, but they were conversant with God, and had sweet communion and fellowship with God.

Don't forget that Adam represented all of humanity! He was our federal head; you and I were IN ADAM!

How did death come? BY ADAM! Adam disobeyed God and rebelled against God's command concerning the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Genesis 2:15-17

Here we have the newly created man being commanded by God in the first recorded words spoken to Adam by God. This tells us a lot about Adam immediately after he was created in that he understood God and communed/communicated with God.

(16): "And the LORD God commanded the man, SAYING"

Adam understood God's Words as He spoke to him and commanded him; in-turn we see Adam understanding God's Word and command. Remember that Adam was created in the image and likeness of God, he walked with God, had fellowship and communion with God, his understanding was not darkened by sin, his mind was not polluted and tainted with evil and wicked thoughts. Adam was alive physically and spiritually.

When God commanded Adam, His command was both positive and negative. You may eat of every tree in the garden, but not this one. The penalty for disobeying my command, saith God: Death!

"In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die"

In the Hebrew, this literally means, "a death thou shalt die" or "in dying, you shall die". You will not only die physically, but you will die spiritually, meaning you will be cut off from fellowship and communion with God and cutoff from the life of God! You will be estranged and driven away from God; you will be an enemy of God!

We know what happened when the serpent tempted Eve and Adam rebelled against God's command, they sinned against God!

Adam and Eve did not immediately die, but now, because of their sin, they would die physically. But what did happen immediately? They died spiritually! As physical death is the separation of the soul from the body, so spiritual death is the separation of the soul from God.

The relationship that they had with God was severed by Adam's disobedience! As we already learned, Adam's sin and disobedience affected us all. Romans 5:12, 3:10-23

Back to our text, which, I hope you have a good understanding of what it means to be "in Adam" and "in Christ": 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Bottom line: If you're not "in Christ", if you're not born again by the Spirit of God, you're still "in Adam". To be "in Adam" is to be lost, dead in your trespasses and sins, estranged from God, separated from God, and at enmity against God!

You're still in the same condition that Adam and Eve were in before the Lord God PERSONALLY INTERVENED for them after their sin. Adam and Eve DID NOTHING to repair their broken relationship with God, they ran from God and hid from Him after they sinned. It was God WHO intervened and covered their shame and their sin. Genesis 3:21

If God had not intervened on their behalf, Adam and Eve would have died in their sins! Beloved, if Christ had not

intervened on our behalf, we would die in our sins! Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love, wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, (He) hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)

The first shedding of innocent blood (the first deaths) were accomplished by God Himself for Adam and Eve's sin; God clothed each of them with the coats of the skins from the slain animals, thus covering their nakedness and shame. God was gracious and merciful to Adam and Eve in their sin!

What a beautiful gospel picture of the substitutionary death of Christ (the 2nd Adam) for the sins of the world from the 1st Adam.

If you're lost, you're dead in your trespasses and sins! Romans 6:23.

When God saves a sinner, God "raises that dead sinner to life", spiritually by the power of the Holy Spirit and the gospel! John 5:24-25

TODAY: You're either IN ADAM or IN CHRIST! If you would rise from the dead to eternal life at the last day, (in the resurrection of the just and of the unjust, you must first be raised (resurrected) from spiritual death to spiritual life now (today)! John 6:37-40, 11:21-26