

**Lighthouse Bible Church**

**January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**John 5: 24 – 30**      *Scripture Reading 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5: 1 - 8*

**Resurrection to Life or Condemnation Part #1**

**Stand – Read – Pray**

We have the privilege of coming together, once again, and worshipping through the partaking of the Lord's table, the partaking of communion together. When we approach this table, we do so as **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11: 26** says **proclaiming the Lord's death until He (what) comes.**

The implication in what is said in that verse, and what we know is true from many other scriptures, is that Jesus died and is now alive and will someday come back for us, which means He resurrected from the dead, which He did. That is something that we believe and hold to as our hope for the future.

The implications of Him not raising from the dead and not being able to raise others from the dead would end Christianity. So that is why the Devil sows in the hearts of people, in our day just like in biblical times, the lie that Jesus is not God in human form and that He was not raised from the grave and He has no power to raise others.

Remember the argument that Paul presented to the Corinthian church because **some said there was no resurrection of the dead.** He said in **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 12 – 19** that **if Christ is not risen then: our preaching is empty and our faith is empty and futile and we are false witnesses and we are still in OUR sins and those who died before us have perished in their sins.** So you can see the implications of that, even for us today.

But **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 20** says **but now Christ is risen from the dead and has become the first fruits of those who have died.** And then he goes on in the rest of chapter 15 to support the resurrection of Jesus and all believers. He says in **Verse 42 – 43** **so also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.**

And because Jesus is alive and He has the power to raise all who are in the grave, He can say like He did in **John 11: 25 – 26** **I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.** Then He says **do you believe this?** Then He displays His resurrection power in raising **Lazarus** from the grave, who had been dead for 4 days.

He says ‘do you believe this’ and the implication is that you have a choice, and you do. Like the religious leaders to whom Jesus is talking in John 5, they didn’t believe that Jesus was who He says He was and they didn’t believe the words that He spoke to them about who He is and His power to give life to whom He wills.

And in John 5 we see what will happen to those who do believe in Jesus and His words and what will happen to those who don’t believe in Jesus and His words and the consequences of that, as it relates to their own resurrections.

You see, the resurrection of Christ and our resurrection is the hope that we have for the future and is essential to our beliefs and Christian doctrine that we must hold to without compromise. Peter said in **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1: 3** that **God has begotten us again to a LIVING HOPE through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you**

It is the hope that Job displayed in **Job 19: 25 - 26** when he said **I know that my redeemer lives and He shall stand at last on the earth and after my skin is destroyed this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God.**

It is the hope that Abraham had when God said to him in **Genesis 22: 2** **take your son, your only son Isaac and offer him as a sacrifice.** Abraham was willing to do that because he had the confidence in God's resurrection power as **Hebrews 11: 19** says **concluding that God was able to raise him up even from the dead..**

We know what David said in **Psalm 16: 9 – 10** **my flesh also will rest in hope for You will not leave my soul in Sheol nor will you allow Your Holy One to see corruption.**

In **Daniel 12: 2** it says **and many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to everlasting contempt.**

In **Hosea 13: 14** says **I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death...** So all throughout the Old Testament they believed in a resurrection. It was the same way in the New Testament.

Jesus talked about in in **Matthew 22: 29 – 33** **but concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read ... God is not a God of the dead but of the living.** Then verse 33 says **they were astonished at His teaching.** In **Luke 14: 14** Jesus calls it **the resurrection of the just.**

The resurrection of Jesus and all believers was the message that the apostles and disciples of Christ were proclaiming.

**Acts 4: 2 says being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. The apostle Paul Acts 17: 18 says preached to them Jesus and the resurrection.**

The passage in **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 4, 7, 20 – 23, 35 – 58** all talk about the resurrection of Christ and all believers. **Colossians 3: 4** says that **when Christ, who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.** In **1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4: 15 – 17** it says **...the dead in Christ will rise first.**

The hope that we have as believers is that when this resurrection happens we will be changed and transformed forever. In **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 42 - 43** our resurrected bodies will be **incorruptible**, they will be **glorious**, they will be **powerful**, all because our resurrected bodies will be like that of Jesus' resurrected bodies.

Look at **Philippians 3: 20 – 21** which says **for our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (watch) who will TRANSFORM our lowly body that it may be CONFORMED to His glorious body... 1<sup>st</sup> John 3: 2 says we shall be like Him.**

Whatever Christ's glorified, resurrected body was like, our resurrected bodies will be like also. You can look all through Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and see different aspects of His glorified, resurrected body.

He could talk and communicate, He could eat  
He could appear and disappear at will, even in locked rooms

One other aspect of our glorified, resurrected bodies is that they will be eternal, forever. That is what **2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5: 1 - 8** says. **For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, this body, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, ETERNAL in the heavens.**

By the way, we have to have that kind of body in order to get into heaven, right. Isn't that what **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 50** says **that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven**. We are having a special body prepared for all the glories of heaven that await us. Our mortal bodies would be consumed in an instant by the glory of God, so we need a new body.

That is what Jesus is sharing in our passage in John 5 when He talks about the resurrection of life, the resurrection of eternal life and the ones who experience it. But He also says that there is another resurrection that another group of people will experience. It is the group of unbelievers, Christ rejecters, who will be resurrected also.

The two groups and these two resurrections are contrasted several places in scripture. Here in our passage in John 5 they are described as **those who have done good to the resurrection of life and those who have done evil to the resurrection of condemnation**.

In **Daniel 12: 2** it is the **some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt**. **Acts 24: 15** Paul said **I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both the JUST and the UNJUST**.

Or what **Revelation 20: 11 – 15** says. There will be a resurrection of those **whose names ARE written in the Book of Life** who go to heaven, and **those whose names ARE NOT written in the book of life** that are cast into the lake of fire and will be tormented day and night forever and ever as **Revelation 20: 10** says.

Listen, just like believers need a new body to enter into heaven, so too unbelievers need a new body to experience the pain and suffering of hell forever. That is what Jesus is talking about in John 5 and we are going to look at it in specific detail next week.

Let me close by saying this. The message of Jesus in John 5 is the message of Jesus being God in human form and Him coming to this earth as a man and living a sinless, perfect life. It is a message of Jesus being hated by the Jews and eventually arrested, tried in a mock trial, beaten and scourged and nailed to a cross and dying. It is a message that Jesus died according to the plan of God, according to the scripture, and was buried. It is the message that God accepted the perfect sacrifice of Jesus for the sins of the world, for your sin and for mine, and showed His acceptance by raising Him from the dead 3 days later. It is the message that Jesus was seen by many and is alive today and is the resurrection and the life for all who would put their faith and trust in His saving work on the cross and in who Jesus is and in His words of everlasting life.

All of what Jesus shared in John Chapter 5 so far is the essential part of the gospel we are to share with unbelievers. Read **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 1 – 6**

He says in **Verses One and Two**: ... **the gospel ... by which you also were saved.**

If you have been saved by hearing the words of Jesus through someone preaching or teaching or reading or however, then you are invited to come to this table and join us as we remember His body given for us and His blood shed for us.

If you are one of those who has not heard the words of Jesus, because your ears are closed to the gospel because of your sin and you have not believed that Jesus is God's Son, God in human form, then we ask that you not partake of this communion time. This is a time for believers to do this as often as we eat and drink in remembrance of Him.

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**Resurrection to Life or Condemnation Pt.#1**

Introduction and Review:

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11: 26

The Resurrection of Christ from the dead:

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 12 – 20, 42 – 43  
John 11: 25 – 26

Hope of the Resurrection in the Old Testament:

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1: 3, Job 19: 25 – 26, Genesis 22: 2  
Hebrews 11: 19, Psalm 16: 9 – 10, Daniel 12: 2  
Hosea 13: 14

Hope of the Resurrection in the New Testament:

Matthew 22: 29 – 33, Luke 14: 14  
Acts 4: 2, 17: 18, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 4, 7, 20-23  
1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 35 – 58, Colossians 3: 4  
1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4: 15 – 17

Changed and Transformed Forever:

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 42 – 43, Philippians 3: 20-21  
1<sup>st</sup> John 3: 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5: 1 – 8  
1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 50

Two Groups and Two Resurrections:

John 5: 29, Daniel 12: 2, Acts 24: 15  
Revelation 20: 10 – 15, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 1 – 6

Application

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