

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

No. 91

September 2019

Is There A Resurrection?

The Fact of The Resurrection

In today's world there are ample theories about what sort of a body an individual will have when they are resurrected and return to earth. One thing is for sure, it will still be a human body (Acts 17:31), not a frog, an angel, or some other animal or creature. No doubt it will be different in composition from the one we have now for, apart from anything else, it will never die. God has made all creatures "after their kind" (Gen. 1:21, 24, 25, 26, 27) and that means a human being will always be a human being. Putting a person in liquid nitrogen is a vain attempt to acquire immortality but it is not God's way, for death by God's decree is the result of sin (Rom. 5:12). In other words, every false ideology of man regarding the denial or obstruction of a resurrection is a lie from Satan.

Then the question comes, "Is there such a thing as resurrection?" When a body is put in the ground and goes to dust, how can that be raised? or when a body is burnt and the ashes scattered, how can that be raised? or if one dies in an explosion or drowns at sea, how can they be made a human being again? Furthermore, how can they be constituted a body being the same person as they were before death? There are several factors to consider:

a) What the resurrection of the Lord Jesus assures:

i) The resurrection of every human being and the judgment of every human being.

1. God has determined, "He (*God*) hath appointed a day, in the which He (*God*) will judge the world in righteousness by that man (*Jesus*) whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead." "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel" (Acts 17:31; Rom. 2:16).
2. It is irrelevant what is done to the body after death, natural decomposition, cremated, just dead or in the seas, God will by Christ raise them from the dead. John, the holy apostle by the Holy Spirit wrote, "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works" (Rev. 20:11-13).

b) When anyone does a cursory consideration of a dead body as it goes to dust, or disintegrated in the oceans, the questions often asked by skeptics are, "How could a dead person come to life and what sort of a body would they have? In reality, the questions are easily answered because the scriptures record eight resurrections, seven of them individuals and one an undisclosed number. The seven individuals were:

- i) The widow of Zarephath's son who was raised by Elijah (1 Kgs. 17:17-24).
- ii) The Shunammite's son raised by Elisha (2 Kgs. 4:18-37).
- iii) The man who was raised when his body touched the bones of Elisha (2 Kgs. 13:20-21).
- iv) The Lord made three resurrections when on earth, and in each case, whether in the Old Testament or New Testament, they were raised by the power of God. Sometimes a word was spoken, sometimes an act, and in one case the contact with the dead body of the prophet. When the Lord spoke the words to each they had the same body as they had before death.
- v) The three resurrected people were Jairus' daughter (Lk. 8:42, 49, 54), the widow of Nain's son (Lk. 7:12-14) and Lazarus (Jn. 11:14, 43, 12:1).
- vi) The one mass resurrection was when the Lord died. The graves were opened and the bodies of many saints rose from the dead (Matt. 27:50-53).
- vii) After Pentecost and the ascension of the Lord, Tabitha whose Greek name was Dorcas, was raised by Peter (Acts 9:36-43).
- viii) Paul was used of God to raise Eutychus (Acts 20:7-12).

Therefore, the question of how they are raised is simple, they were raised by the power of God.

- i) Furthermore, the question of how people will come back to life or what sort of a body they will have is not a new question by man. It is as old as almost man is as he has tried to use rationale to explain the unexplainable. None of us know how a caterpillar changes into a beautiful butterfly. We know the stages it goes through but by what power it happens? We must accept by faith that there is a power that brings about the change and accept the evidence that is known and seen. The same with the resurrection of the dead. The mind which ignores the power and ability of the Almighty is reduced to human reasoning and then have a problem, but when God is brought into the equation, it all becomes possible for, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God" (Lk. 18:27).

[An Assumption Which Misleads](#)

There is the assumption that when we all rise from the dead our bodies will be the same as we have now. This is an error. Several observations are to be made:

- a) These bodies are temporal. We are born, grow up, get old and die. They do not last forever. Therefore, those raised from the dead whom we have mentioned, all with the exception of our Lord died again and will have bodies that will never die. The eternal body will never die whether one is in Heaven or Hell. The Lord made this plain when he spoke of the place where, "the worm dieth not" (Mk. 9:44, 46, 48). The unsaved are cast into the Lake of fire where there is weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth (Matt 8:12; 2:13) because of their rejection of Christ as the only way of salvation. They will never die.
- b) For many religious people, and I add, genuinely honest God fearing people who live on the clean side of the street, will never be in Heaven because they neglected/rejected God's sole way of salvation. The Lord said, "I am the way, the truth and the life, NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME (Jn. 14:6). For all those who in sincerity depend on their works and not Christ alone, will never be in Heaven but will be where the man was in Luke 16:23. We read the dreadful words of imploration and refutation, "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence" (Lk. 16:23-26).

Wise is the individual who turns from depending on their own way and own works for salvation, and puts their trust completely on the saving work of Christ.

. . . Rowan Jennings

www.scripturaltruths.org

e-mail: scripturaltruths1@shaw.ca

If you don't wish to receive future Newsletters, please send us an email and we will take your name off the Mailing List.