

The Importance of the Resurrection Part 3 -The Resurrections-

_____, believers and non-believers in Christ, will participate in some kind of resurrection.

Many erroneously believe that there is one general resurrection at the end of the age, but the Bible teaches that there will be a series of resurrections, some to eternal life in heaven and some to eternal damnation. (Daniel 12:2; John 5:28-29).

Daniel 12:2 New King James Version (NKJV)

² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt.

John 5:28-29 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁸ Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice ²⁹ and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

The question is not will you be in the resurrection but _____ resurrection will you be in?

As for believers, there are possibly 4 resurrections for us to be concerned with.

- 1) The first great resurrection was the resurrection of _____.

It is documented in each of the four Gospels (Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20).

- 2) The first great resurrection of the Church will occur at the time of the _____

¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

All those who have placed their trust in Jesus Christ during the Church Age, and have died before Jesus returns, will be resurrected at the rapture. The Apostle Paul explained that not all Christians will die, but all will be changed.

- 3) Another great resurrection will occur when Christ _____ (His Second Coming) at the end of the Tribulation period.

TVC STUDY NOTES

After the rapture, the Tribulation is the next event after the Church Age in God's chronology. This will be a time of terrible judgment upon the world, described in great detail in Revelation chapters 6-18. Though all Church Age believers will be gone, millions of people left behind on earth will come to their senses during this time and will trust in Jesus as their Savior.

- 4) There _____ another resurrection at the end of the Millennium, one which is implied, but never explicitly stated in Scripture.

It is possible that some believers will die a physical death during the Millennium.

"No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; for the youth will die at the age of one hundred and the one who does not reach the age of one hundred will be thought accursed" (Isaiah 65:20).

On the other hand, it is also possible that death in the Millennium will only come to the disobedient. In either event, some kind of transformation will be required to fit believers in their natural bodies in the Millennium for pristine existence throughout eternity. Each believer will need to have a "resurrected" type of body.

There is a final resurrection, apparently of all the unbelieving dead of all ages. Jesus Christ will raise them from the dead (John 5:25-29) after the Millennium, the thousand-year reign of Christ (Revelation 20:5), and after the destruction of the present earth and universe (2 Peter 3:7-12; Revelation 20:11). This is the resurrection described by Daniel as an awakening "from the dust of the ground."

The Apostle John saw something that would happen in the future. He saw a "great white throne" (Revelation 20:11). All the (godless) dead will stand before the throne. This means they have been resurrected after the thousand years (Revelation 20:5). They will possess bodies that can feel pain but will never cease to exist (Mark 9:43-48). They will be judged, and their punishment will be commensurate with their works. But there is another book opened—the Lamb's book of life (Revelation 21:27). Those whose names are not written in the book of life are cast into the "lake of fire," which amounts to "the second death" (Revelation 20:11-15). Those whose names appear in the book of life were among those who are blessed, for they received forgiveness and partook of the first resurrection, the resurrection to life (Revelation 20:6).