




from
death
to *life*
cross theology
part VI



1. The resurrection was understood first as a vindication of Jesus.

The resurrection cast a retrospective light backwards validating His cross, claims, and place.



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2. The resurrection was understood second as a responsibility of ours.

Before they celebrated resurrection as a future heavenly promise, they embraced it as a present earthly responsibility.

Passover

Pentecost



40 days

10 days



Good Friday

Jesus' Ascension

Birth of Church

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The resurrection cast a retrospective light backwards validating His cross, claims, and place.

2. The resurrection was understood second as a responsibility of ours.

Before they celebrated resurrection as a future heavenly promise, they embraced it as a present earthly responsibility.

3. The resurrection was understood ultimately as the destiny of everything.

One day our bodies and world will receive what it groans for – resurrection.



Romans 8:19-24

For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who His children really are. Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

Romans 8:19-24

And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as His adopted children, including the new bodies He has promised us. We were given this hope when we were saved.



“When we’ve been there 10,000 years bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we first begun.”

What did Jesus and His contemporaries believe about resurrection?

- During this time there were diverse views of the afterlife.
- Jesus, Paul, and the early church believed like the Pharisees.
- Pharisees: After a period of physical death, everyone will be resurrected at the same time.
- The critical difference between Jesus and Pharisees was how He spoke of His resurrection.
- Jesus is the “First Fruit of the harvest”
 - the unexpected resurrection before the final one.





“Those who have done good will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment.” - John 5:29

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Mark 9:10

As they went back down the mountain, He told them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept it to themselves, but they often asked each other what He meant by “rising from the dead.”

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1 Corinthians 15:20-23

But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the **First of a great harvest** of all who have died... But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the **First of the harvest**; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when He comes back.

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What does Scripture say about the moment of resurrection?

- The word rapture is nowhere in Scripture.

- It's an idea that didn't exist until John Darby in the 19th century.

- It does not map onto the relevant biblical texts.



1 Thessalonians 4:15-18

For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until **the coming of the Lord**, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord Himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will **descend** from Heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be **caught up in the clouds** together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

What does Scripture say about the moment of resurrection?

-The Greek word for “the coming” of Jesus is παρουσία – parousia.

(1) The mysterious presence of a god or divinity.

(2) the visitation of a high-ranking official, usually a king or emperor, to a subject state.

-παρουσία is never used to mean anything like a rapture or the imminent collapse of the space-time universe.



What does Scripture say about the moment of resurrection?

-When royalty would go visit a colony, the citizens and ruling officials would go out to meet him at some distance from the city.

-When Paul speaks of meeting the Lord in the clouds, the idea isn't we stay up there, but like with every other παρουσία then, we go to meet Him with excitement and escort Him back.





“Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.” -Mt. 24:40-41

Matthew 24:37-42

“For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming [παρουσία – parousia] of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming [παρουσία – parousia] of the Son of Man.”



Matthew 24:37-42

Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.

Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

Matthew 24:37-40

For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming [παρουσία – parousia] of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming [παρουσία – parousia] of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

When will the final resurrection happen?

- Anyone who suggests they know is defying Scripture.

- The biblical answer is “Stay ready!”



Where does the final resurrection take place?

-The resurrection happens here to everything.

-Someday, when Jesus comes back, we're not going to Heaven but Heaven is coming to us.



Revelation 21:1-3, 5

Then I saw a **new** heaven and a **new** earth, for the **old** heaven and the **old** earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, **coming down** from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now **among His people!** He will **live with them**, and they will be His people. God Himself will **be with them**.... And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything **new**."

Romans 8:19-21

For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who His children really are. Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay.

What will our resurrected world
and bodies be like?

-Like what we experience now,
but unimaginably better.





Romans 8:22-23

For we know that all creation has been **groaning** as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. And we believers also **groan**, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering.

"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing." --C.S. Lewis

What makes the resurrection so unimaginably wonderful?

-We will experience the full presence of our God who is love, and thus the full absence of sin and death.





Revelation 22:3-4

No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there, and His servants will worship Him. And they will see His face, and His name will be written on their foreheads.



He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain.
All these things are gone forever. - Revelation 21:4

Revelation 19:6-7

Then I heard again what sounded like the shout of a vast crowd or the roar of mighty ocean waves or the crash of loud thunder: “Praise the Lord! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to Him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and His bride has prepared herself.