

# The First Resurrection

A perspective view of a long, brightly lit hallway. The walls are a light, neutral color, and the floor is a darker shade. At the far end of the hallway, there is a very bright, glowing orange light source, which creates a strong lens flare effect that dominates the center of the image. The light fades as it moves towards the viewer, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere.

# The First Resurrection

MOST IMPORTANT!

## Jesus' death and resurrection

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4** that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

➤ His resurrection changed **EVERYTHING!**

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➤ His resurrection changed **EVERYTHING!**

➤ Jesus' sacrificial death and His resurrection provide the basis for **salvation from sin:**

**1 Corinthians 15:17** And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

# The First Resurrection

MOST IMPORTANT!

## Jesus' death and resurrection

➤ If Jesus was not resurrected from the dead, then He cannot **return in glory** – but He will!

**Revelation 19:11-12** Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

**Matthew 24:30** they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

# The First Resurrection

MOST IMPORTANT!

## Jesus' death and resurrection

Jesus' resurrection **guarantees** a future resurrection life for all believers:

**John 5:26-29** For just as the Father has life in Himself, so also He has granted to the Son to have life in Himself. <sup>27</sup> And He has granted Him the right to pass judgment, because He is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> Do not be amazed at this, because a time is coming when all who are in the graves will hear His voice <sup>29</sup> and come out-- those who have done good things, to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked things, to the resurrection of judgment.

# The First Resurrection

MOST IMPORTANT!

## Jesus' death and resurrection

Jesus' resurrection **guarantees** a future resurrection life for all believers:

**John 14:19** In a little while the world will see Me no longer, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live too.

**Romans 6:5** For if we have been joined with Him in the likeness of His death, we will certainly also be in the likeness of His resurrection

**Colossians 3:4** When the Messiah, who is your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

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***Jesus' resurrection is the FIRSTFRUITS of the First Resurrection, which means that there are more resurrections to come. 1 Cor. 15: 23-24***

# The First Resurrection

**Revelation 20:4** Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them.

- Sitting on thrones - **NT saints** – resurrected at rapture, rewarded

**Matthew 19:28** So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

# The First Resurrection

**Revelation 20:4** Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them.

- Sitting on thrones - **NT saints** – resurrected at rapture, rewarded
- Could include – **OT saints** – resurrected when Jesus returns to Earth

**Ezekiel 34:23-28** I will establish one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them -- My servant David. He shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken. <sup>25</sup> I will make a covenant of peace with them, and cause wild beasts to cease from the land; and they will dwell safely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. <sup>26</sup> I will make them and the places all around My hill a blessing; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of blessing. <sup>27</sup> Then the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase. They shall be safe in their land; and they shall know that I *am* the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke and delivered them from the hand of those who enslaved them. <sup>28</sup> And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make *them* afraid.

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**Hosea 3:4-5** For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim. <sup>5</sup> Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.

# The First Resurrection

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- Could include – **OT saints** – resurrected when Jesus returns to Earth

OT saints who **believed in God** and trusted Him for forgiveness and salvation will be resurrected.

**Daniel 12:1-2** there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, *Even* to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book. <sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

# The First Resurrection

## Examples of OT saints' belief in the resurrection:

**Martha:** **John 11:24-25** Martha said, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live."

**JOB:** **Job 19:25-27** For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; <sup>26</sup> And after my skin is destroyed, this *I know*, That in my flesh I shall see God, <sup>27</sup> Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. *How my heart yearns within me!*

**Abraham :** **Genesis 22:5** Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there to worship; then we'll come back to you."

**Hebrews 11:19** "concluding that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense."

# The First Resurrection

## Examples of OT saints' belief in the resurrection:

**David: Psalm 16:10-11** For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. <sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life; In Your presence *is* fullness of joy; At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

**Isaiah : Isaiah 26:19** Your dead shall live; Together with my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your dew is like the dew of herbs, And the earth shall cast out the dead.

**Ezekiel: Ezekiel 43:18-19** <sup>18</sup> And He said to me, "Son of man, thus says the Lord GOD: 'These *are* the ordinances for the altar on the day when it is made, for sacrificing burnt offerings on it, and for sprinkling blood on it. <sup>19</sup> **'You** shall give a young bull for a sin offering to the priests, the Levites, who are of the seed of Zadok, who approach Me to minister to Me,' says the Lord GOD.

# The First Resurrection

- **Jesus resurrected:** the Firstfruits of the resurrection (more to come)

**Revelation 20:4** Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them.

- Sitting on thrones - **NT saints** – resurrected at rapture, rewarded
- Could include – **OT saints** – resurrected after Tribulation when Jesus returns to Earth

# The First Resurrection

**Revelation 20:4** And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their witness of Jesus and because of the word of God, and who also had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand.

- John saw **souls** - people who trusted in Jesus during the Tribulation - killed for their faith.

**Revelation 20:4** And they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

- John saw souls raised to life – **Tribulation Martyrs** resurrected, after Jesus' return to Earth

# The First Resurrection

## ORDER OF EVENTS IN REVELATION

**Revelation 11:11-12** **2 witnesses resurrected**: Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. <sup>12</sup> And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. “

**Revelation 19: 11-19** Jesus comes back in glory

**Revelation 19: 20-21** destroys Antichrist and his armies

**Revelation 20: 1-3** Satan is locked up in the abyss

**Revelation 20: 4** NT saints seated on thrones

**Revelation 20: 4** OT saints resurrected to reign and judge

**Revelation 20: 4** Tribulation Martyrs resurrected

# The First Resurrection

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verse 5: the rest of the dead (*unbelievers, wicked dead*)

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**Comparison:** verse 4, souls of those beheaded (*dead Tribulation martyrs*)  
verse 5: the rest of the dead (*unbelievers, wicked dead*)

**Declarations:** verse 5: the rest of the dead  
→ did not come to life

*(but they will be resurrected)*

→ until 1000 years were finished

*(they will be raised to immortality after Jesus' 1000 year reign)*

# The First Resurrection

**Revelation 20:5** The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

**Context:** the wicked dead will experience **the second death**

**Revelation 20:12-14** I also saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life, and the dead were judged according to their works by what was written in the books. <sup>13</sup> Then the sea gave up its dead, and Death and Hades gave up their dead; all<sup>1</sup> were judged according to their works. <sup>14</sup> Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the **second death, the lake of fire.**

# The First Resurrection

**Revelation 20:4-6** And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them.

Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God,

..... And they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

## **Revelation 20:5**

The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were finished.

This is the first resurrection.

## **Revelation 20:6**

Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection. Over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

# The First Resurrection

- There is a First resurrection
- Blessed are those who are in the first resurrection.  
This includes **all believers.**
- After 1000 years, there is a 'last' resurrection, when the wicked of all the history of earth come to life.
- The Bible calls this a **resurrection to judgment**
- and **a resurrection to the second death (lake of fire).**

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**I.** We will have a **BODILY** resurrection – just like Jesus!

This is *not* an immaterial eternal existence.

**Romans 6:5** For if we have been joined with Him in the likeness of His death, we will certainly also be in the likeness of His resurrection.

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**II.** Our resurrection is our **GLORIFICATION** – our final sanctification, when we receive a perfect immortal body.

“Glorification is the radical transformation of both the body and the soul of believers, perfecting them in holiness, and thereby fitting them for eternal life on the new earth in perfect communion with the triune God.” Biblical Doctrine, pg 654

# The First Resurrection

**Philippians 3:20-21** For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body

**1 Corinthians 15:42-44** So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. *The body* is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup> It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

# The First Resurrection

## III. 4 ASPECTS OF OUR RESURRECTION BODIES

### Current body

Decays

Dishonored by sin

### Resurrection body

Immortal! Imperishable!

Glorious!

“perfectly suited to please, praise and fully enjoy the Creator who made them and the Redeemer who restored them!”

**Luke 22:28-30** You are the ones who stood by Me in My trials. <sup>29</sup> I bestow on you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one on Me, <sup>30</sup> so that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom.

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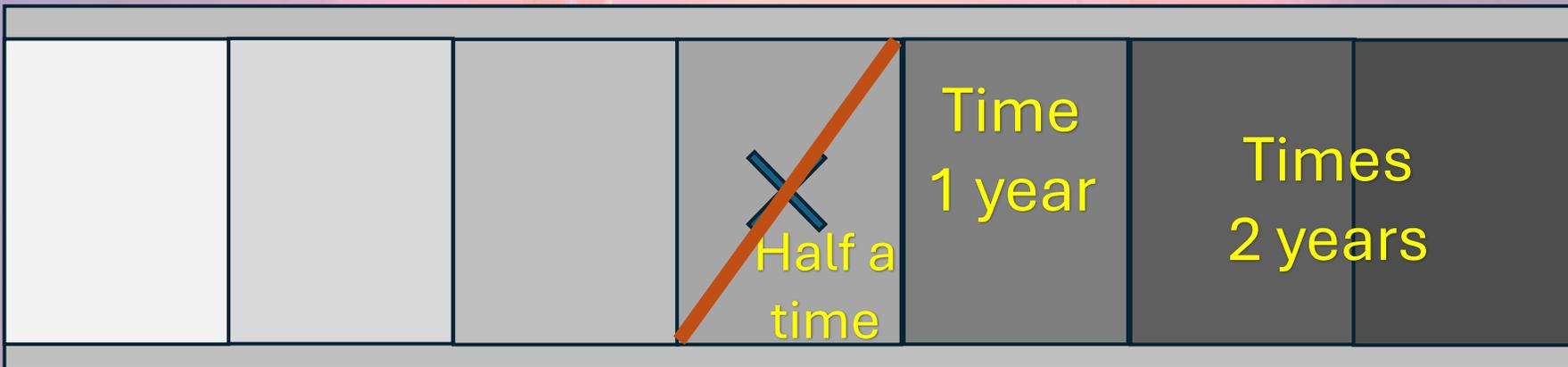
Spiritual!

# The First Resurrection

## III. 4 ASPECTS OF OUR RESURRECTION BODIES

**1 Corinthians 15:49-57** And as we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *Man*.<sup>50</sup> Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.<sup>51</sup> Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed --<sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.<sup>53</sup> For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.<sup>54</sup> So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."<sup>55</sup> "O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?"<sup>56</sup> The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law.<sup>57</sup> But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.





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