

Resurrection

A survey of Biblical teaching about Jesus' resurrection

Resurrection in the New Testament

- The Old Testament contains frequent references to life beyond death
 - Compared to references in the New Testament, there are fewer and lack the same degree of clarity
 - We will look at some Old Testament statements next week
- Resurrection, and subsequent life, are central to the New Testament scriptures

Resurrection/subsequent life in the New Testament

- Eyewitness accounts of Jesus' resurrection in the gospels
- Acts records sermons and events
 - Jesus' appearance after death, 1:1-11
 - Peter's sermons, 2:24-36; 10:40
 - Peter's and apostles' statements, 3:15; 4:2
 - Stephen's vision, 7:55-56
 - Paul's conversion events; 9:4-6; 22:6-8; 26:12-15
 - Paul's sermons, 13:30-38; 17:30-32
 - Paul's defenses, 23:6; 24:14-15; 26:6-9, 22-23

Resurrection/subsequent life in the New Testament

- Paul's letters

- I Thessalonians 1:9-10; 4:13-5:11
- II Thessalonians 1:7-10
- Philippians 2:6-11; 3:10-11, 20-21
- Galatians 2:13-14; 3:1-4
- Ephesians 1:20-23; 4:9-10
- Colossians 2:13-14; 3:1-4
- I Timothy 3:16
- II Timothy 1:10; 2:8-12, 17-18
- Romans 1:3-4; 6; 8:10-11
- I Corinthians 16:1-58
- II Corinthians 1:8-11; 4:13-5:10

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 - Romans 1:3-4; 6; 8:10-11

Resurrection/subsequent life in the New Testament

- Other books

- Hebrews 2:5, 14-18; 5:7-9; 6:2; 7:23-25; 11:17-19, 35
- James 5:15
- I Peter 1:3-4; 3:21-22; 5:1, 10
- II Peter 3:13
- I John 2:28-3:3
- Jude 21
- Revelation 1:5, 17-18; 2:8-11; 10:11-15; 21:3-9

Resurrection/subsequent life in the New Testament

- Does not occur in
 - Titus
 - Philemon
 - II John
 - III John

5 Themes

1. Resurrection is a bodily reality
2. Jesus was resurrected first (firstfruit); we will follow later
3. Judgement of all men is connected with the return of Jesus and our resurrection
4. Jesus' resurrection establishes his lordship and hence divinity
5. Resurrection is used as a metaphor for our converted life

1. Resurrection is a bodily reality

- Jesus was resurrected in a physical, bodily form
- He could be touched and could act on the physical world
- His resurrected body was different than his pre-death body
- Jesus' resurrection was a singular event, separate from the resurrection of all other people
- Early believers had an imperfect understanding
- Our resurrection will be like Jesus' – a bodily reality, Philippians 3:20-21

2. Jesus was resurrected first (firstfruit); we will follow later

- I Corinthians 15:23

- Jesus is the firstfruit

- All people will follow

- Some changed without the death process

- Most changed with the death process

3. Judgement of all men is connected with the return of Jesus and our resurrection

- II Corinthians 5:10
 - Following a long discussion of resurrection and subsequent life
 - All people must appear in judgment
- Our focus will be the life promised to Jesus' followers
- There is also a life promised to those who reject Jesus, I Thessalonians 1:10

4. Jesus' resurrection establishes his lordship and hence divinity

- There was a clear change in the language of the first followers of Jesus after his resurrection
 - Though Jesus spoke of himself as Lord, they began to use this language – language used exclusively for God
 - Notice the language of Thomas upon seeing the crucified but now resurrected Jesus, John 20:28

5. Resurrection as a metaphor for our converted life

- Transformation of a converted christian is as complete as death raised to life
- Romans 6
- The metaphoe draws upon reality – it cannot diminish it