

B 14

Title: Resurrection and Judgment

Text: John 5:19-29

Will you open your Bibles, please, to the Gospel of John. The Gospel of John and chapter 5. ~~And I will~~ ^{And we will} begin ~~reading~~ ^{with} at Vs 19. We are continuing a series of messages on WHAT WE BELIEVE. Last week we looked at the Second coming of Christ. ~~And tonight~~ ^{Today} we are continuing on that theme as we look at the subject of RESURRECTION AND JUDGMENT. John chapter 5 verse 19

(Read John 5:19-29)

Let us join together in Prayer

In the Bible, I believe, that we find two resurrections and 7 judgments that I would like to share with you this ~~evening~~ ^{morning}. Two resurrections and 7 judgments which are taught in the Word of God.

There is much in the way of opinion in the world today from liberal men, who are denying the truth, the infallibility of the Word of God. In declaring that if the Bible teaches anything, it teaches only one general resurrection and only one general judgment. And many times they do not define whether that is literal or not.

But, I say that the Bible teaches two definite resurrections. And it teaches 7 judgments. Now, what are these two resurrections? They are very simple.

One, is the resurrection of the believer. Two, the resurrection of the non-believer....

~~So,~~ there is a day coming when all men will be resurrected from the dead. That includes both believer and non-believer. All non-believers will experience a physical resurrection.

Many people do not realize the Bible teaches that. All non-believers will experience a resurrection from the dead.

Now, first of all concerning the resurrection of the Believer. We are told the time of that event. I Thessalonians chapter 4 teaches that the "Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the

archgel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them ~~not~~ to meet the Lord in the air."

So, the resurrection of the believer takes place when Jesus Christ come to meet his church, his bride, in the air. That is the resurrection of the believer.

Also, in I Corinthians 15:51 and 52 we read...."Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed?"

At the time of our Lord's return ^{at the time of the Rapture of the church} the resurrection of the believer will be very sudden and will occur very fast.

Now, what is the nature of this resurrection . The Bible tells us in Philippians chapter 3 verse 21 that our bodies will be transformed into conformity with the body of HIS GLORY.

That means when the resurrection of the Believer takes place, our bodies will be identical in substance and form to Jesus Christ. We will have a resurrected, glorified body fashioned just like the resurrected body of Jesus Christ.

In I John chapter 3 verse 2 it says that when we see him we shall be like him because we shall see Him just as He is.

Now, if you want to know what that resurrection body was like. Then read those accounts in the Bible of the appearance of Jesus following his resurrection. For example, Jesus ate with his resurrected body.

Jesus could appear in a room without going through the door. Jesus had the wounds in his hands and in his side. He had a physical body. He said that he had flesh and bones.

But, obviously it was not subject to the limitations which we know now in the human body. The Bible teaches that one day there will be no more sin nor sickness nor pain. The Bible tells us that all of this will be wiped away. Including our tears.

Must

So, the body will be perfect. It will be like Jesus Christ. It will have the capacity to go where he was able to go. It will be able to eat and function like a normal physical body. But, it will not have the processes of decay that we now presently have.

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS RESURRECTION FOR THE BELIEVER? I would like you to turn to I Corinthians chapter 15. I Cor chapter 15 and we will read Verse 12-17.....And these verse indicate the great importance of the resurrection for the believer. I say to you ^{This Morning} ~~tonight~~ that if we stop preaching and teaching a literal bodily resurrection from the dead we have wiped out our reason for existence in this place. It is vitally important for the christian faith. There is no hope without the resurrection of the body. Let me show you what I mean. I Corinthians chapter 15:12.....

(Read I Cor 15:12-17)

The Bible is very clear. If there is no bodily resurrection, there is no hope. "We are still in our sins. So, let's go home.....It is ^{that} ~~so~~ important.....

But, what about the resurrection of the unbeliever? Is there such a thing? Will it occure? I would like you to turn to the last book in the Bible. The Book of Revelation and chapter 20.....Revelation chapter 20.

The resurrection of the unbeliever occures at a separate time than the resurrection of the believer. They are not the same event. They will not happen at the same time. WHEN WILL ALL UNBELIEVERS BE RESURRECTED? The Bible tells us. Revelation chapter 20 beginning at Vs 4

(Read 20:4-6)

How anyone could miss this I don't understand. The Bible clearly teaches that this is FIRST. Therefore, there is a second. And the second resurrection is at the end of the thousand years reign of Christ upon this earth.

Which is at least One Thousand and 7 years away from ^{The Morning} ~~tonight~~. I didn't say it was. I said "AT LEAST." Because preceeding that thousand years reign of Christ is a period of 7 years of tribulation such as the world has never seen. ~~Christ will come and take his believers out off this world preceeding the tribulation. At that time, believers who are dead will be resurrected.~~ ^{at the end of these 7 years of great tribulation, the millenial reign of christ will begin}

At the conclusion of the thousand years reign of Christ upon the earth all unbelievers will be resurrected.....WHAT FOR?.....To stand before God, in the body in which they lived, in the body in which they sinned, and they will stand there before God and receive the sentences from THE BOOKS. And that is clearly recorded in Revelation 20:11-15.....

Vs 12 says: "And I saw the dead, the great and small, standing before the throne, and the books were opened and so forth"...Very clear

Also, notice Vs 14..."And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death."

There was a first one. ^{physical death} Here is the second ~~one~~ ^{eternal death}

There is the first resurrection. There is a second ~~one~~ ^{resurrection}. And after the second resurrection when they stand before God, there is a second death. A second time when men will be separated from God. And this time eternally. In a place called the Lake of fire.

Now, how important is this to us? I think that is obvious from Vs 15 of Revelation 20. "And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life".....The book of what?....."the book of life";...Eternal resurrecti life that will make us live forever with God because are name is there. "And if anyone's name was not found written in that book, he was thrown into the lake of fire." That is how important it is.....

Now, what about Judgment? Over and over again through out the Bible the message is resurrection and judgement. And there are 7 judgments listed in the N.T....

(1) Number one, the judgment of the cross of Jesus Christ. In Gal. 3:13 we read: "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us".....In John 5:24 we read: "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into Judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

But, I would like you to turn to John chapter 12....John 12:31 (read 31-.....(Read Vs 31-33)).....

It is clear from what Jesus said that a judgment takes place at his cross And it is Satan that is judged there. But, also, sin is judged. Sin is judged and paid for at the cross of Jesus Christ. And every person who now receives the death of Christ as the final payment for his own sin is delivered from the judgment and condemnation of sin.

Now, there is a second kind off judgment in the N.T. In I Corinthians chapter 11. Would you turn there please. I Corinthians chapter 11. And I want to call this the judgment of believers. Not what believers do. That is another judgment. But judgment of believers *right now.*

Did you know that the Bible teaches that God is constantly, right now, judging believers? He is judging ~~them~~. I am not talking about a future day when we will stand before God and be judged for our works. I am talking about being judged right now.

I Corinthains chapter 11 and let's begin with Verse 27... This concerns the Communion service.....

Vs 27...."therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner".....That means treating the things of God in a ~~common~~ common way. Treating them lightly. And any person who does this, he says, "shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord."

Vs 28.....(Read 28-32)

The Bible teaches if we would judge ourselves and our own sins and face them and confess them to God, God wouldn't have to judge us, now. But, when we don't, the Bible teaches, that God will judge his people. And for this cause some are weak and sick and some are even dead.

Often times we wonder, "How can I explain the sickness or death of so and so." And not all sickness is a result of sin. That is clear from John chapter 9 when the disciples said about the man born blind. "Who sinned this man or his parants?".....

Jesus said "Niether, but that the works of God would be manifested in him.".....Not all sickness is a result of sin.....BUT, IT MANY BE. And the Bible teaches that God judges people and brings sickness to people as a result of sin.....

and It also says that he will cut them short. He will cause death to ~~occur~~ *occur*. *Frank* You cannot play around with the things of God. You cannot treat the things of God lightly. And trample under foot the blood of the Lord Jesus. And hope to be free from his judgement.....God will bring it. So, there is a judgment of the believer, *right now*.

(3) Then, I notice, third, there is the judgment of the believers works.

And this takes place at the judgment seat of Christ. The Bible tells us that when ~~this time comes~~ *the Rapture Occurs*, when Christ meets us in the Air, and believers are caught up to meet him, and the resurrection of the body of believers occurs, we will go to heaven for 7 years. And at that time the judgment seat of Christ will occur. Believers's works will be judged. It will not be a question of salvation. And we learned this clearly in I Cor 3. The Bible tells us that we will suffer loss. Yet, he will be saved even by fire. The fire that tries our works. We will suffer the ~~loss~~ *loss* of reward. And we will see all of our works which we thought were so wonderful being burned up like wood, hay, and straw. And only that which is of precious stone quality will endure and last. That which is the fruit and product of the Holy Spirit, will last in that day of judgment.

So, it will not be a question of our salvation for that is ~~secure~~ *secure* based upon the blood of Jesus. But, believers works will be judged.

Now, I would like to ask you a question. I know that you think the way I think. And often times, I have thought about the judgment seat of Christ. WHY SHOULD I BE CONCERNED ABOUT IT? After all I am saved. It doesn't involve my eternal destiny. So why should I be ~~concerned~~ *concerned*. And why does God put it in his Word? What good is it? Why is it important?

I say to you that God's Word teaches that a Christian should be motivated ~~into the Lord's service~~ *to do the Lord's work* on the basis of the judgment seat of Christ. For the Bible tells us that all things whether they be good or bad will be judged by God. That means everything that I have done that is wrong and bad, that I refuse to confess to God, refuse to apply the blood of Christ which continually cleanses my sin, all of those things will be brought up before me.

And in 2 Corinthians 5:10 after saying that we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, he then says in Vs 11 "therefore knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men."

So, the judgment seat of Christ, when the works of believers will be judged, is not an occasion that we should just lightly pass over. And falsely conclude that it doesn't have any value.....Oh, no....It has a great deal of value. For it will bring the christian to a right relationship with his lord. A relationship whereby he will confess his sin. A relationship whereby he will recognize that only work done in the power of the Holy Spirit will last that judgment. So, he is motivated to serve his lord because he knows of this judgment.

(4) Then fourth, there is a judgment recorded in Matthew 25. Would you TURN there, please. Matthew chapter 25 and verses 31-46...This is often called the judgment of the living nations. Now, what is it talking about? What is it referring to?.....

To briefly summarize these verses from 31 to 46, the Bible tells us that Christ will come with all of his holy angels and all of ~~his~~^{His} saints. He is going to seat on the throne of glory. He is going to gather before him all the nations. That event happens before his thousand years reign after the 7 year tribulation period. At the end of the 7 years of great tribulation Christ will come back to the earth to establish his kingdom. At that point we have the judgment of the living nations. Nations that are ~~live~~^{live} alive when Christ comes in glory. And he will defeat them at the battle of Armageddon. Now, what is this judgement?

We are told that these nations are likened unto sheep and goats. The sheep are on the right hand. The goats are on the left. The sheep are the ones that will receive everlasting life (Vs 46). The goats are the ones who will receive everlasting punishment. That is clear from Vs 41..

Now, there is a tremendous judgment upon these people. And notice, please, vs 40. Here we have the bases for this judgment. We read "truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of mine."

The bases of judging these nations is their treatment of the brothers of the Lord Jesus. This is not discribing the final judgment of God between believers and unbelievers. It is a judgment of the nations who have been living in the tribulation period. And Christ will judge them according to theri treatment of the Jews.....And if they have given a cup of cold water un to the Jews, and if they have given it in the name of Christ, He said it is just like giveing it ot me. And the Bible clearly teaches that those nations of the world that treat the Jews wrong, that persecute them, that don't help them when they are in need, if they don't help them they will be under the judgment of God.....

And those that do will receive everlasting life. You say, "Well, does that mean that some folks will be saved during the tribulation period?" Yes.....Revelation chapter 7 says "out of every tongue nation and ~~people~~ people will come a great multitude of Gentiles. As will as 144,000 Jews who have been sealed by God to proclaim the everlasting Gospel. They will preach it to the Gentile nations of this world. And a multitude of them will come to Christ. The Bible teaches that.

But, those will be people who haven't heard the Gospel. And some of them might be people ~~wh~~ are living today. Countless millions have not heard the Gospel of Christ.

Then there is a fiveth judgment which I will quickly mention. It is the judgment of Israel. At the same time that the living nations are judged Israel will be judged. ^{The} That is found in Eze~~iel~~ chapter 20 verse 33-44.

And I believe the best illustration of that is found in Matthew chapter 25..Vs 1 says...."Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins....."

Often Israel is likened unto 10 virgins.....It is so in Revelation 14. Ten virgins. It is speaking, here, about the tribulation period. Five were wise; and five were foolish. The wise put oil in their lamps. The fo~~l~~ish did not. The bridgroom ^{Came} ~~came~~. That is his coming at the end of the tribulation. And the unwise virgins wanted to come into the wedding. But they could not because they did not have any oil. They were not p~~re~~pared

And Jesus said in Vs 13 "be lert, for you do not know the day nor the ~~the~~ hour when the son of man comes."

Israel will, also, be judged. And Ezeikel says the rebels will be driven out.

(6) Then there is the sixth judgment. This is the judgement of angels.

I Corinthians 6:3 says that believers will judge angels someday. And I believe, personally, that we are going to judge the unbelieving angels. That the Bible tells us in 2 Peter that have been perserved unto the day of judgment and punishment. Believers will be given that right to judge fallen angels.....I wish I had more time to develop that idea. Put, I offer it to you for your study.....I Cor 6:3...2 Peter 2:4 and Jude 6. Believers will judge angels.

(7) And then that final judgement. Would you turn to Revelation 20 The seventh judgment in the Bible is the judgment of unbelievers. It is discribed as being before a GREAT WHITE THRONE. Revelation 20 verse 11....

(Read 20:11-12)

^{not} Notice, there will be degrees of punishment in Hell.... ^{unbelievers} They will be judged according to their deeds just as believers will be judged according to their deeds. So, unbelievers also, ^{and be judged} ~~And there will be degrees of punishment in Hell.~~

Vs 13..."And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades".....Hades is the temporary abode of all wicked dead. When a person dies, now, ^{who} ~~he~~ is an unbeliever, he has not received Christ as Saviour, he goes, that is his soul goes to Hades....His body goes to the grave. His soul goes to Hades to await the final ~~and~~ judgment. In the O.T. this is called SHEOL.....

So, very simpley ...if you should die having never received Jesus Christ as Lord and saviour of your life, your soul will go to this place called Hades to await the final judgment of God....

At that final judgment(Rev 20) the unbeliever will be resurrected to stand before God.....

Notice vs 14 again...."And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire".....That is the final Hell.....A place where people will spend eternity if they refuse Christ. And notice this is the second death. That is it is eternal separation. "And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

Folks, I want to say ~~tonight~~ ^{This morning} that there is one person who has hated every word of this message ~~tonight~~. And that is Satan, himself.....

It is not easy to tell folks that there is going to be a judgment of God And people are going to go to an everlasting Hell. And they will be there forever....That is not easy.....,

But, beloved, that is the whole point of the Gospel. That is why we are ~~hear~~ ^{have}. That is why we should be doing all we can to reach people for Christ. That is why we should be concerned. Because people are going to Hell.....And the Bible teaches that we are condemned already....It is not a question of whether or not we will be ~~condemned~~ ^{condemned} someday. We are already condemned because of sin. And unless we trust Christ the condemnation will not be removed.

Dear Friends, God doesn't want you to go to Hell. As I have often said. If you go to hell you will be ~~trspassing~~ ^{trspassing} because Hell was prepared for Satan and his angels. God doesn't want you to go to hell.

And no person has to go to hell. If you will only trust ~~God~~ ^{Christ} and receive Him into your heart and life. God doesn't want you to go to Hell. He isn't willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. That is His great heart. He is crying out to us.....He stands with outstretched arms wanting you to repent and confess your sin and turn your life over to him.....HE WANTS TO SAVE YOU.....

And God made salvation so simple....ONLY BELIEVE....ONLY BELIEVE... Jesus said...."What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world and yet he loses his soul".....

Let us Pray

#417 = Just as I am, without one plea