The Resurrections (39) The Judgment of Seat of Christ (14)

(<u>1 Corinthians 3:10-17</u>) Pastor Eddie Ildefonso Matthew 28:1-10

(Continuation from **01-09-11**)

The Doctrine of the Resurrections

(<u>1 Corinthians 3:10-17</u>)

A Walk Bearing God's Nature: The Fruit of the Spirit (5) (Galatians 5:22-23)

1. (<u>Galatians 5:22-23</u>) <u>Holy Spirit— Believer, Walk</u>: the believer is to walk bearing God's nature, that is, the fruit of God's Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NASB)

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

(Ephesians 2:14-15) <u>Peace— Reconciliation— Law— Brotherhood— Unity—</u> <u>Division— New Man</u>: Christ brings us peace. Note that Jesus Christ Himself is our peace.

Christ brings us peace when we realize that He died for us and offers us deliverance from the bondage of sin and death and a life of eternity with God.

Christ brings a deeper sense of peace when we realize that He gives the daily power to overcome the aggravating and terrible weight of anguish and guilt and loneliness and emptiness and fear.

Christ brings a still deeper sense of peace when we realize that He has brought perfect love and unity to the world—that He has eliminated all divisions and barriers and differences between God and man and between men.

Christ is man's peace because <u>He does four things for man</u>.

1. Christ brings peace by bringing men together as "one" (Ephesians 2:14). Note that He has made "both one," that is, Jew and Gentile.

There are two ways that Christ makes men as one.

a. All men now approach God on the same basis, on an equal footing: by the blood of Jesus Christ. There is no other way. Therefore, when a man comes to the cross, he comes with everyone else who is standing at the feet of Jesus. He stands as one with them—all on an equal basis: sinners who need a Savior.

Standing there he is not accepted by God because he is better, healthier, wealthier, more intelligent, more capable, and more religious than anyone else. He is acceptable to God because He acknowledges his unworthiness and nothingness—his desperate need—to be saved by the blood of Christ. He is acceptable to God because he acknowledges that he is as all other men—lost and needful—and he comes as one with all other men to confess Christ as his Savior. (John 14:27; Romans 5:1; Romans 14:17; Ephesians 2:14; Colossians 1:20)

- **b.** All men who come to Christ for salvation receive a common love and purpose and work.
 - 1. First, there is the common love. Every believer who comes to Jesus Christ loves Him, and that common love *among* believers stirs a common love between believers. Love for Jesus Christ stirs love for all those whom Christ loves—which is everyone. Christ leads men to love one another.
 - Second, there is the common purpose and work: that of living righteously and bearing testimony to the glorious message of salvation and to life eternal. (<u>Romans 12:5</u>; <u>Galatians 3:28</u>; <u>Ephesians 4:12-13</u>; <u>1 John 1:7</u>)

2. Christ brings peace by breaking down all barriers (Ephesians 2:14). This is a picture taken from the temple. The temple was surrounded by a series of courts. Each court had a high wall separating it from the preceding court. As one approached the temple, he entered first of all the outer Court of the Gentiles. This is where the buying and selling of animals and the exchanging of money for foreign worshippers took place (see Mark 11:15).

Then there was the Court of the Women. A Jewish woman was limited to this court unless she had come to make a sacrifice.

The next court was the Court of the Israelites. This is where the whole congregation gathered on the great feast days and where sacrifices were handed over to the priests. The Court of the Priests was next. This court was in the temple proper where the temple itself stood. This area was considered sacred and was accessible only to the services of the priests.

Finally, within the very heart of the temple stood the Holy of Holies or the Most Holy Place where the very presence of God was to dwell. Only the High Priest could enter the Holy Place and he could enter only once a year—at the great Passover Feast. Partition after partition separated people from the presence of God. Tablets hung around the wall of the Gentile Court announcing that if any Gentile walked into any other court, he was to be put to death.

01-16-11 Series: The Resurrections

The picture is that of Jesus Christ breaking down all barriers and walls that separate man from God. All men can now approach God equally through the death of Jesus Christ. Men build all kinds of barriers and prejudices against other men.

Society is plagued with barriers and prejudices built around such things as.....

1. Race	7. Wealth
2. Color	8. Position
3. Religion	9. Morality
4. Organizations	10. Dress
5. Appearance	11. Commitment
6. Health	12. Ability

But Christ has now done away with all barriers and prejudices. He has broken them all down by the blood of His cross. All men now approach God and become worthy on the same basis: by bowing before the cross and surrendering their lives to God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 23:8; Acts 10:28; Romans 10:12; Galatians 3:28; James 2:5; Proverbs 22:2)

3. Christ brings peace by wiping out the enmity of the law against us. Before Christ, man had to approach God through law. However, man discovered something: the law did not make him acceptable to God: it condemned him and showed him how far away from God be really was—totally depraved. Every time he broke the law, the law cried out **"guilty"** and pronounced the penalty of being imperfect and unworthy and unacceptable to God. Man discovered that the law was against him—at enmity with him.

But now, Christ has done away with the enmity and condemnation of the law.

- **1.** He has lived a sinless life, fulfilling the law perfectly; and thereby He has secured the Perfect and Ideal Righteousness.
- 2. He has also paid the penalty for man's having broken the law. As the Ideal and Perfect Man He could do this. When He died on the cross, He bore our condemnation and punishment for us.

The point is this: when Christ fulfilled the law, He became the embodiment of the law. He is now the Way. A man is to approach God through Him, not the law. Therefore, there are no laws, no rules, and no decrees to keep men from God. There is only one thing that keeps a man away from God: refusing to come to God through His Son Jesus Christ. (Matthew 5:17; Romans 8:3; Galatians 3:13; Galatians 4:4-5)

4. Christ brings peace by creating a "**new man**." God planned and promised a "**new creation**"—the creation of a *new man* individually and corporately, a new man in whom Jesus Christ dwells (<u>Colossians 1:27</u>).

Individually when a man turns to Christ, Christ causes the man to be *born again*. He recreates the man—creates the man *all over again*. The man has a new life; he begins life all over again. He has a new beginning, and this new beginning brings peace—peace of heart and mind.

Corporately in Jesus Christ all men who believe, both Jew and Gentile, make up *one new body* (Ephesians 2:16), *one new family* (Ephesians 2:19), *one new building* (Ephesians 2:20-22), *one new temple* (Ephesians 2:21), *one new fellowship* (Ephesians 1:22).