

02-12-12

Series: The Resurrections

# The Resurrections (58)

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Matthew 28:1-10

(Continuation from 02-05-12)

## The Doctrine of the Resurrections

### The Intermediate State

[Revelation 20:6](#) calls the *first resurrection*.

[Revelation 20:6](#) (NASB)

**<sup>6</sup>Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.**

**Secondly, there is the resurrection of all of those people who died without salvation.** It includes all of the unsaved who died before Christ, after Christ, during the Tribulation, and all those who were alive and judged at the Second Coming. They will all be raised at the end of the millennial kingdom to stand before the Great White Throne in judgment. It will be the final judgment in which they will be brought before God, condemned, and then eternally cast into the Lake of Fire. ([Revelation 20:11-15](#))

Now, having established these two types of resurrections (and we will study them in greater detail in later studies), the question naturally arises as to **how do people who have died exist after their death?** A purely biblical definition of death would simply be the separation of the material body from the immaterial part of an individual.

[James 2:26](#) calls it *the body without the spirit*. When anyone dies, their body is placed into the grave (unless their body was destroyed in some type of horrific accident). But the soul or the spirit of that individual is still existent and alive, and will continue to exist for eternity. And that eternal existence applies to both saved and lost people. So, what is the state of the immaterial part of the individual? Where does it exist, what form is it in? This is where we will begin in our next study.

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1. **The Resurrection of Jesus Christ**
2. **The Resurrection of the Saints in Jerusalem**
3. **The Resurrection of the Church**
4. **The Resurrection of the Old Testament Saints**
5. **The Resurrection of Tribulation Saints**
6. **The Resurrection of the Millennial Saints**
7. **The Resurrection of the Wicked**

## 7. The Resurrection of the Wicked

The final resurrection is a resurrection apparently related only to those who are wicked. According to [Revelation 20:11-15](#), in connection with the judgment at the great white throne, all the dead not previously raised are resurrected and stand before God to be judged.

This is the final resurrection before the creation of the new heavens and the new earth. The details of this judgment will be considered in a later teaching. Taken as a whole, Scripture is plain that all men are destined to be raised. As Daniel summarizes it:

**[Daniel 12:2 \(NASB\)](#)**

<sup>2</sup> **"Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting contempt.**

Although men may die, all will be raised, but the resurrections will not be the same. The resurrection of life is a glorious resurrection in which the bodies of believers will be patterned after the resurrection body of Christ.

The resurrection of damnation, however, is an awful spectacle. Men will be given bodies that will last forever, but bodies that are sinful and subject to pain and suffering. Like the devil and his angels, they will exist forever in the lake of fire.

This compelling fact has driven men to carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth so as many as possible may be snatched as brands from the burning ([Jude 23](#)) and delivered from the wrath of God which is sure to come upon the ungodly.

**[Jude 1:23 \(NASB\)](#)**

<sup>23</sup> **save others, snatching them out of the fire; and on some have mercy with fear, hating even the garment polluted by the flesh.**

For the righteous, however, the doctrine of resurrection is the basis of our hope and, although the last generation of the church will be raptured without dying, for the great majority of the world resurrection from the grave has been God's method of transforming a body suited for earth to a body that is suited for His glorious presence.

**Conclusion of Series 02/12/12**