

05 April 2023 John # 81 “Resurrection”

John 5:28-29

There are only two ways a person can come back from being actually dead: 1. Resuscitation is when someone returns from the dead in a human body of corruption only to die again like, Lazarus, the apostle Paul and Elijah with Moses during the Tribulation and the second way someone can come alive from the dead is resurrection; a return in a body of incorruption never to die again.

Resurrection describes the eternal condition of all human beings; believer and unbeliever alike; it's the beginning of the eternal state for everyone.

Resurrection is a concept we all must understand to enhance our spiritual growth.

WE HAVE 6 DISPENSATIONS:

Two Theocentric dispensations in the Old Testament:

1. The dispensation of the Gentiles

2. The dispensation of the Jews, the nation of Israel

God initiated four unconditional covenants:

The Abrahamic, Palestinian, Davidic and the New covenant and one conditional covenant; the Mosaic Law.

And there were five Jewish priestly client nations in the Old Testament:

1) The Theocratic Kingdom 1445-1043BC

2) The United Kingdom 1043-931BC

3) The Divided Kingdom with the Northern Kingdom of Israel 931-722BC and

4) The Southern Kingdom of Judah 931-586BC

5) The Restoration of Israel as Judah 516-4BC

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Two Theocentric dispensations in the Old Testament:

1. The dispensation of the Gentiles

2. The dispensation of the Jews, the nation of Israel

Two Christocentric dispensations in the New Testament:

1. The Incarnation 2. The Church Age

Two Eschatological dispensations:

1. The Tribulation 2. The Millennium

We have control over our lives to walk in our experiential plan of God from a consistent positive response to His truth which outlines our invisible spiritual bank account so that we

can use our divinely deposited funds and glorify God the Father, the Depositor.

But we have no control over the way we leave this earth; the place it happens or the time it happens.

And so, except for those alive at the Rapture, all believers will experience physical death and remember; the way we die is a matter of God's wisdom combined with His omniscience.

Actually, there are no accidental deaths in the mind of God; no matter who was negligent or at fault humanly speaking, the death of a loved one was in God's timing from His wisdom, so we have no right to be bitter or hateful or involved in any emotional arrogance.

There could not have been an Old Testament resurrection because the first resurrection in history was Jesus Christ's at the end of the Incarnation.

Remember Job's example of great faith-rest when he heard his children died in a terrible storm: "The Lord gives; the Lord takes away; blessed be the Name of the Lord."

Our resurrection is a matter of a wise sovereign decision of God, so our free-will decision, our understanding of it or even our success in the Christian life are not factors in our resurrection or the Rapture of the Church.

Resurrection is our Lord's victory and just as we have no control over the way we die, the place or time we die, we have no control over the timing of our resurrection.

The Rapture will not occur due to the merit of any believers; we don't usher in the resurrection by what we do or by predictions we or anyone else makes.

Understanding, believing and applying the doctrine of Resurrection brings great comfort and blessing but only to those who have personally believed in Jesus Christ.

Our comfort is His grace and knowing that our resurrection is the Lord's victory.

But for those who reject Jesus Christ as Savior, there is judgment at the second resurrection, Hebrews 9:27.

For those who are alive at the Rapture, they will receive an imperishable, immortal body not subject to death, eternal in nature.