

“THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD - ARE YOU READY?” (1Cor. 15)

Pastor Mark Johnson

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INTRO: What is the resurrection of the dead? When will it happen? Who will experience it? What will the resurrected body be like? Let’s find out! The resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment are considered elementary foundational principles of Christ (Heb. 6:1-2)!

What Did Jesus Say About The Resurrection of the Dead (John 5:28-29; 6:40; 11:23-25)?

1. There will be an hour in which everyone – both the good and the evil will be risen from the dead to go to their eternal destinies (John 5:28-29).
2. This resurrection will happen *“at the last day”* (John 6:40; 11:23-24).

The Resurrection of the Dead in Acts:

“I have hope in God, ... that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.” (24:15)

I. I DECLARE TO YOU THE GOSPEL (1Cor. 15:1-8)

- A. The gospel saves if we receive it & hold fast (vv. 1-2).
- B. The gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (vv. 3-5).
- C. The eyewitnesses of Jesus’ resurrection (vv. 5-8).

II. PAUL’S TESTIMONY (1Cor. 15:9-11)

- A. He persecuted the church before he was saved (v. 9).
- B. Paul was saved and called to be an apostle by the grace of God (vv. 10-11; Acts 9).
- C. What has the grace of God called you to be and do?

III. THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (1Cor. 15:12-58)

- A. Christ’s resurrection from the dead assures us of also being resurrected from the dead (v. 12).
- B. If Christ hadn’t risen from the dead, then we would have no hope of a future resurrection and our faith would be empty (vv. 13-14)
- C. If Jesus hadn’t risen from the dead, the apostles would have been false witnesses – liars (vv. 15-16).
- D. If Christ hadn’t risen from the dead, our faith would be futile, we would still be in our sins, and the dead would have no hope (vv. 17-19).
- E. But Christ is risen from the dead and so will we (vv. 20-23)!
- F. Then comes the end when death is destroyed (vv. 24-28; Ps. 110:1).
- G. Paul wouldn’t put up with all this adversity if there wasn’t a resurrection (vv. 29-34; 2Cor. 11:24-28).
- H. How the dead are raised (vv. 35-57).
 1. The resurrected body is different in substance from the body that dies (v. 38).
 2. Each part of God’s creation has a different and unique substance – body (vv. 39-41).
 3. The resurrected body is incorruptible (vv. 42-44).
 4. We shall bear Christ’s image (vv. 47-49).
 5. Flesh & blood cannot inherit God’s kingdom (v. 50).
 6. Characteristics of the Resurrection (vv. 51-57):
 - a. At the last trumpet the dead will be raised incorruptible and we shall be changed (vv. 51-53).
 - b. Death will be swallowed up in victory (vv. 54-57).

Conclusion: Never stop doing God’s word (v. 58)! Are you ready for the resurrection of the dead?