

**FOUNDATION**  
**Instruction About Resurrection of the Dead – Part Two**  
**John 5:24-29**

**John 5:24-29**~ <sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. <sup>25</sup> “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. <sup>26</sup> For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. <sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

I. Introduction (The Affects of Resurrection)

Good morning, good morning, Brothers and Sisters. It is nice to be back with you sharing the word of God after a few weeks. I will take today and next week to finish our FOUNDATION series. Today, I will continue with part two of the Resurrection, and next week I will conclude with the doctrine of Eternal Judgment.

It has been a journey, hasn't it? But I hope it has been uplifting for you as we study the Bible and apply its principles.

Last time, we looked at the 5 affects of the Resurrection. It is important for us to know about the Resurrection because ...

1. First, the resurrection gives us Hope. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)
2. Second, the resurrection gives us Comfort. (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
3. Third, the resurrection gives us Endurance to Suffer. (1 Corinthians 15:30-32)
4. Fourth, the resurrection keeps us Faithful. (Hebrews 11:35)
5. Five, the resurrection keeps us Purity. (1 John 3:2-3)

One author and student of Scriptures noted that:

The more we talked about resurrection, the less foreboding death seemed to be.<sup>1</sup>

So to the Christian, death is deliverance. It is not a disease, or a disaster, or a devastation. It is a deliverance. Thus, there is comfort in death. There is hope and peace. Paul writes:

**Philippians 1:21-24**~ <sup>21</sup> For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup> But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.

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<sup>1</sup> Hank Hanegraaff, *Resurrection* (Nashville; Word Publishing, 2000), p. xvii.

## II. Instruction on Resurrection

But what is the Resurrection? How many Resurrections are there? When will the Resurrection occur? These are some of the questions I would like to address in today's message.

In John chapter 5, Jesus is having a showdown with the Jews (John 5:18), namely the Pharisees. They want to kill him. Why? Two reasons. First, the Jews want to kill Jesus because he is breaking the law. Specifically, Jesus is breaking the Sabbath law ... the fourth law of the Ten Commandment, which states that ...

**Exodus 20:8-10**~ <sup>8</sup>“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

Make no mistake, Jesus violates the Mosaic Law. He is not a Hebraic Law observer. However, it is not all the Mosaic laws that he does not keep. He only violates the ceremonial laws ... laws that have to do with signs and symbols and rituals that would eventually be passing away. But Jesus never violates the moral laws ... laws that pertain to God's character such as love, mercy, and justice to name a few. Those laws that strike at the very character and heart of God must be kept.

This is seen in John 5:18.

**John 5:18**~

<sup>18</sup>This was why the Jews

were seeking all the more to kill him,

because not only was he breaking the Sabbath,  
but he was even calling God his own Father,  
making himself equal with God.

Please note the second reason the Jews wants to kill Jesus ... Jesus claims a personal relationship with God, calling God his Father, making himself equal with God. Jesus is saying that the Father works on the Sabbath. The Father extends His love and mercy and compassion on the Sabbath day. So likewise, Jesus shows the same love and mercy and compassion on the Sabbath day like his Father. You see this in the previous verse ... verse 17.

**John 5:17**~ <sup>17</sup>But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

Oh, that angers the Jews to no end. And rightly so. Remember that the Jews were cast into captivity because they did not keep the Sabbath (2 Chronicles 36:21).<sup>2</sup> And here is this rabbi who violates the Sabbath, one of the sins that threw the Jews into exile.

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<sup>2</sup> **2 Chronicles 36:21**~ <sup>20</sup>He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, <sup>21</sup>to fulfill the word of the LORD by

Well, the reason why Jesus can break the Sabbath law is because he is authorized to break the Sabbath law. Jesus goes on in verses 19 and following to explain why he can violate the Sabbath law. By the way, this is known as the Father/Son Discourse.

**John 5:19-20**~<sup>19</sup> So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. <sup>20</sup> For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. [Please note this ...] And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.

What are these “greater works”?

**John 5:20a-23**~<sup>20</sup> And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.

<sup>21</sup> For as the Father raises the dead  
and gives them life,

so also the Son gives life to whom he will.

<sup>22</sup> For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son,

<sup>23</sup> that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father.

There are three things that the Father does and that He gives the Jesus to do.

1. He raises the dead,
2. He gives them life,
3. And He brings dead into judgment.

Now Jesus is going to elaborate on this. And he is going to explain what he just said concerning: 1) raising the dead, 2) giving life, and 3) judgment in verse 24 and following.

**John 5:24**~<sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Here lies the definition of Resurrection for the Believers.

1. First, Resurrection is the Dead raising to Life.

This resurrection ... this passing from death to life ... when does this happen? What resurrection is Jesus talking about?

Some would say that Jesus is talking about the future when we who believe would be raised to life physically. That is true. There is a future resurrection. But right here, Jesus is NOT talking about a future resurrection, but a present resurrection.

- a. One: there are Two Resurrections

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the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.

**John 5:25~<sup>25</sup>** “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

There is a future resurrection (“and hour is coming”) and there is a present resurrection (“and now is”).

The future resurrection is the second resurrection and the present resurrection is known as the “First Resurrection” in the Bible.

**Revelation 20:5-6~<sup>5</sup>** The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. <sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

I believe Revelation 20 is talking about this present resurrection during this time period and not some distant future resurrection.

- b. Two: The First Resurrection is Spiritual and the Second Resurrection is Physical.

Also, the future resurrection is physical, when those who have died physically in Christ. But this present resurrection is spiritual, where the spiritually dead are raised to have spiritual life. This is seen in Ephesians 2:1.

**Ephesians 2:1-5~<sup>1</sup>** And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

We are dead to sin, but we are alive with Christ. What does that mean? The Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:2, where were once “disobedient” ... that’s the dead to sin part ... but now we are obedient to God ... that’s the alive with Christ.

Some of us even though we received this first, spiritual resurrection live as though we are dead. That is not how it should be. We need to be alive with Christ. We are to be resurrected with Christ in this present life.

2. Second, Life is Knowing the Father (and Jesus).

This resurrected life is not about living forever, although we have immortality through Christ. This resurrected life is not even about going to Heaven, although we will be living in a New Heaven and a New Earth here on this transformed Earth.

No. The resurrected life is to know the Father and to know Jesus.

**John 17:3~<sup>3</sup>** And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

And we are not talking about knowing as understanding or having some informational knowledge. The knowing is to know through experience. This is seen in one of my favorite verses.

**Philippians 3:10~<sup>10</sup>** that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

You can hear Paul's deep devotion and plead ... "that I may know him". Eternal life is about knowing Him more and more each day.

3. Third, Resurrection exempts believers from Condemning judgment.

Let me give you the last one quickly. By believing in Jesus, that is loving him and following him, we are exempt from the judgment of condemnation.

**John 5:28-29~<sup>28</sup>** Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

"An hour is coming" ... Jesus is talking about the future resurrection now ... the Second Resurrection ... the physical resurrection. There will be one day when all people, both the righteous and the unrighteous will be resurrected physically. And everyone will be judged based upon their deeds ... what they have done.

More about this judgment of deeds next week as we will conclude our FOUNDATION series with Eternal Judgment.

### III. Conclusion

So the conclusion ...

1. First, Resurrection is the Dead raising to Life.
  - a. One: there are Two Resurrections.
  - b. Two: there is a present resurrection and a future resurrection.
  - c. Three: The First Resurrection is Spiritual and the Second Resurrection is Physical.

2. Second, Life is Knowing the Father (and Jesus).
3. Third, Resurrection exempts believers from Condemning judgment.

#### IV. The Blessing

**Presider:** May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. May the love of our Lord Jesus Christ be unto you.

**Congregation:** And also to you.