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Christ’s Resurrection Means the Best is Yet to Come



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #61 ~

“I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised again on the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, then without question, this is the greatest news, that He died for your sins, and was raised again! Might this gospel message bring great joy, blessing and hope to your heart. Though you were dead in your sins and unable to save yourself, God intervened and forgave you, made you His child, and gave you eternal life. Hallelujah!

During this time of the year, we celebrate Christ’s death and resurrection. It’s essential that you know what Christ did for you, by His death and resurrection, justified you. Now you are now being sanctified and you will be glorified. A lot could be said about your past justification

and present sanctification, but the primary purpose of this blog site is to help you understand the future, and particularly, that you will be glorified and live forever with Christ and all the saints.

One of the best Bible passages to explain this is 1 Corinthians 15. Starting with verse 23, we read about the order of the resurrection. *"But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming."* Jesus Christ was the first person to be resurrected, to be raised from the dead and never to die again, to be glorified and immortal. That was about 2000 years ago. But when will we be resurrected? It is at Christ's coming. It is not before Christ's coming, but in fact, is the first event at His coming. When Christ returns in the clouds, all believers, all those living on earth, and all those who have already died, will be resurrected, will be glorified, will be physically saved and forever transformed. *"Our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform the humble state of our body into conformity with the body of His glory."* Philippians 3:20-21

1 Corinthians 15:42-44 describes this resurrection body with four words: imperishable, glorious, powerful and spiritual. Our brand new body will be imperishable and immortal, one that will never perish, wear out, morally decay or die again. It will be glorious – it will be amazing, beautiful and spectacular, perfect inside and out, infinitely better than your present body. It will be powerful, invincible, indestructible, incredibly strong, much stronger than Superman, Iron Man, Tron, Captain America, etc., and able to do all God wants you to do. It will be a spiritual body. Though it is physical in nature, it is also spiritual in nature, perfectly suited to worship God, to love and serve the saints, to have fellowship, and to wonderfully enjoy God and the pleasures of life. Psalm 16:11

1 Corinthians 15:50-53 gives us more information about believers being glorified. *"We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet."* This means that not all

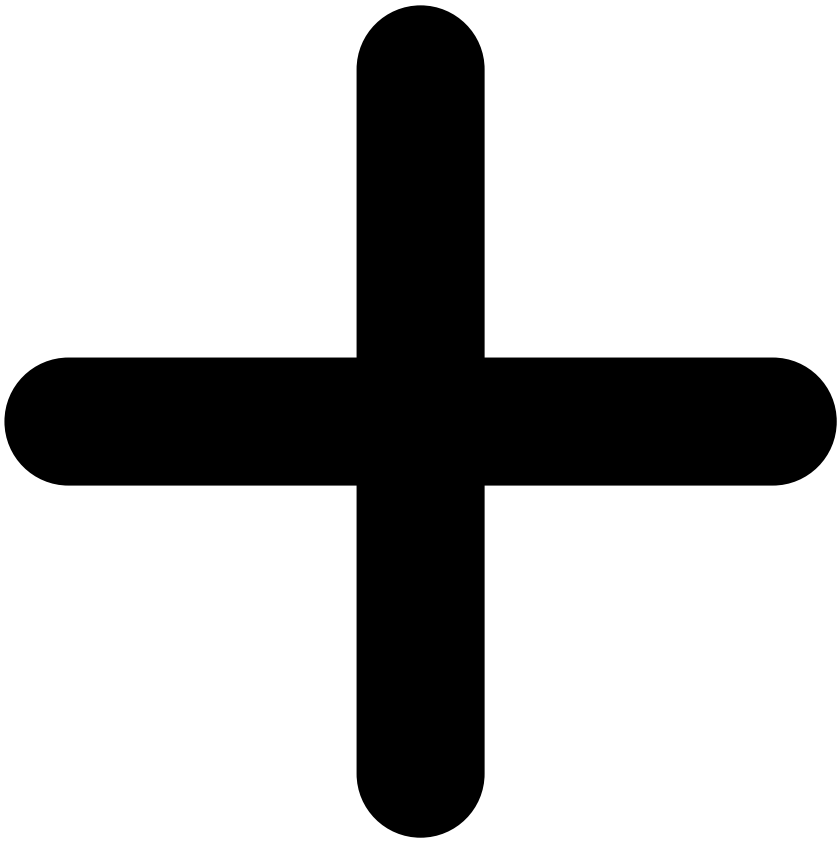
believers are going to physically die, but all believers will be changed, or glorified. Think about this, that all believers from all time will be glorified at the coming of Christ, those who have already died and are in heaven, and those who still remain on earth. This is what 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 is explaining, that *"the dead in Christ* (those who have already died) *will rise first,"* and then *"we who are alive and remain* (until the coming of the Lord) *will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air."* This last verse is referring to the rapture, when Christians who are alive at the coming of Christ will be rapidly taken off this earth and then be glorified. This will happen *"in a moment,"* quickly, suddenly, instantly, and immediately after the sound of a trumpet and the sighting of Christ in the clouds.

In the world there's lots of talk about victory, success, winning, and being first. But by far, your greatest success is your victory over death; and by death, I mean spiritual death and physical death. So what if you have problems, trials or sickness. So what if you get old and die. *"Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory, where is your sting?... Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Corinthians 15:54-57). Might you be super-excited! Might you be extremely happy in Christ, filled with His joy and peace, knowing that through Him, you are a winner, you are victorious, and you have a future and a hope!

What is the conclusion to this truth about the resurrection of Christ and our coming resurrection in Christ? How are we to live? *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your work in the Lord is not in vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:58). We are to love God, be filled with the Spirit, and do the work of Christ until we physically die and are taken to heaven, or until the return of Christ and the rapture of the church. *"God will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ."* 1 Corinthians 1:8

P.S. There are a couple of articles that relate directly to this most

important subject of the resurrection. When you get time, I would encourage you to read them: Heavenly Verses That Speak About Your Glorious Future! Being in Heaven with Jesus, and the Believers, and in a New Glorified Body!



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