

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY: KEY TERMS OF SCRIPTURE

RESURRECTION

1.) How would you define resurrection?

2.) The Scriptures speak of two deaths and two resurrections.

a.) What is the first death and the first resurrection?

Genesis 3:19 “By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

John 5:24-25 “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.”

Revelation 20:4-6 They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

b.) What is the second death and the second resurrection?

Daniel 12:2 “Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.”

John 5:28-29 “Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.”

Revelation 20:14-15 The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

3.) What do you know of Job’s condition when he wrote the following words? How did that make the promise of the resurrection especially sweet to him? Under what conditions in our lives is the resurrection a particularly special promise?

Job 19:25-27 “I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!”

4.) Who will be raised to life when Jesus returns on the Last Day (cf. also Revelation 20:11-13)? What is our basis for such certainty (cf. 1 Cor. 15)?

Matthew 25:31-32a “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him.”

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

5.) Connected to Christ by faith how will the bodily resurrection of believers be qualitatively different from our current existence?

Philippians 3:20-21 Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

1 Corinthians 15:42-44 The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

6.) While the Scriptures say little about the resurrected life of the damned, what can we say?

Isaiah 66:24 “They will go out and look upon the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; their worm will not die, nor will their fire be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind.”

Daniel 12:2 “Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to ...shame and everlasting contempt.”

7.) Based on the following passages what does the resurrection of Christ effect and enable?

Romans 1:4 Who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 4:25 [Jesus] was delivered over to death [because of] our sins and was raised to life [because of] our justification.

Romans 6:4-7 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

Colossians 3:1-4 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

8.) How do other world religions deal with the issue of death? How do we have something better?

- *Buddhism: Nirvana = die and reincarnate; goal is detachment from desire and cycle of reincarnation*
- *Hinduism: Moksha/Nirvana = die, suffer/bliss until karma reaches “zero/balance;” goal is to be absorbed into Brahma and ends cycle of reincarnation*
- *Islam: if you pass judgment then get to go through heaven via one of 8 gates of what best at*

9.) How are both sacraments, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, expressions of Jesus’ resurrection? What does this mean to you when you remember your baptism or take part in Holy Communion?

Closing Prayer: *Risen Christ, we glorify you for your resurrection, which is the guarantee of our own. Transform our minds as you promise to transform our bodies in order that we may live for you our whole life through and also into eternity. Amen.*

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