

He is not here;
he has risen,
just as he said.

Matthew 28:6

Resurrection recap ...



Some basics ...

- Greek word for Resurrection is “Anastasis”
- Means physical bodies brought back to life
- “Spiritual resurrection” is a contradiction, like speaking of a square circle
- Influence of Plato ... taught that physical matter is evil
- Directly opposed to the Hebraic view ... Earth is fallen but inherently good and will be restored one day, not destroyed
- Resurrection of Jesus a central component of the Gospel
(1 Cor 15 : 1-5, Romans 1 : 1-5)
- Resurrection the main source of Christian hope (Col 1 : 3-5)
- Resurrection is an “elementary teaching” (Hebrews 6 : 1-3)



What does the OT say about Resurrection ?

- Not much actually ...
- Are some glimpses and whispers in the earlier parts (Psalm 16 : 8-11, 49 : 13-15)
- Some more attention is given to it later on ...
- Speaks of a two-stage future after death, and that the righteous will shine like stars (Daniel 12 : 2-3, 13)
- Resurrection will happen on the “third day” (Hosea 6 : 1-3)
- Was not taken literally – understood as the day at the end of the present age when all of the righteous dead will rise at once



The Resurrection of Jesus

- Strong echo's of the Genesis account of creation (John 20-21)
 - Mary arrived at the empty tomb on the first day, in the dark
 - Mary mistook Jesus for the gardener
 - Jesus breathed the Spirit on his disciples
- Resurrection of Jesus was the start of “new creation”
- Jesus body was physical, looked similar yet different, and he could appear and disappear as he wished (trans-physical ?)
- Death and resurrection of Jesus removed separation between God and His people (John 20 : 17)
- Recognition of Jesus as the Son of God was grounded in the Resurrection (Romans 1 : 1-4)
 - Messiah / saviour
 - Lord and King
 - God himself



The General Resurrection

- Jesus' Resurrection as the "firstfruits" = the promise & guarantee of more of the same (the "prototype") (1 Cor 15 : 20-24)
- Our bodies will be transformed at the resurrection (1 Cor 15 : 42-44)
- From a natural to a "spiritual body" does NOT mean a disembodied state, but refers to what will animate / drive us
- Our new bodies are stored up for us in heaven where they are safe from corruption and decay (2 Cor 5 : 1-5)
- The righteous and unrighteous will be raised (John 5 : 25 – 29)





"I miss stress."

The General Resurrection (cont)

- Immediately after death, there is a time of sleep in heaven or Hades, followed by physical resurrection when Jesus returns i.e. Resurrection is life AFTER life after death (1 Thess 4 : 13-14, John 14 : 1-3)
- The resurrected righteous will reign over God's new creation (Rev 5 : 9-10), will sit on thrones and judge the nations (Luke 22 : 29-30)
- The resurrection will take place at the second coming of Jesus and will happen in a "flash" (1 Cor 15 : 50-52)



The General Resurrection (cont)

- Believers being “caught up in the clouds” with Jesus (1 Thess 4 : 13-18) is not a “rapture” but a figure of speech referring to a royal welcome
- God plans to bring heaven and earth together again, with heaven coming down to earth i.e. earth will not be destroyed but renewed and restored to its original state (Rev 21 : 1-5)
- Satan will not win the victory he desires !
- The Resurrection will be achieved by the Holy Spirit, who was also instrumental in the Genesis creation (Romans 8 : 9-11)
- This is the power that disciples of Christ have within them



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So What ?
Wait until next week ...

