

# The University Heights Messenger

April 4, 2010

## How Many Resurrections?

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*Brother Caldwell's article is designed to refute the dispensational premillennialist view of multiple resurrections. Though you won't find many classic dispensationalists these days, the idea of multiple resurrections is a staple of every premillennial theory. Brother Caldwell very simply and ably shows us the Bible truth on this subject.*

The Divine Message says, **"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation"** (John 5:28-29).

It is important to remember that dispensational premillennialists actually have three resurrections, not just two. The Bible teaches that there will be only one resurrection: **"And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day...No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day...Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day"** (John 6:39, 40, 44, 54).

**"And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust"** (Acts 24:15; see also Matt. 25:31-46; 2 Thes. 1:7-9).

The separation of righteous and wicked will come at the end of the world, not a thousand years before (cf. Matt. 13:30-50).

According to premillennial positions, the first "second coming" is the Rapture. The second "second coming" is the Revelation. In support of the first "second coming" the

dispensationalist uses Genesis 5:21-24; John 14:1-3; and 1 Thes. 4:13-17. In support of the second "second coming" the dispensationalist uses 1 Thes. 3:11-13.

Concerning Genesis 5:21-24, the claim is made that we will be translated like Enoch. The passage six times in succession speaks of some who die. Enoch did not die but was translated. We, of course, affirm that some will be taken when the Lord comes; some, that is, who have not died. The passage proves nothing for the millennialist.

John 14:1-3 again proves nothing concerning two resurrections. All accept the truth of the passage. What it does not say is that those whom Jesus receives unto himself will later be brought again to the earth with him at an appearing or revelation seven or a thousand years afterward.

1 Thes. 4:13-17 is often used to teach two resurrections...one for the righteous and one for the wicked. It does not. It does not mention the wicked at all. The next chapter implies strongly that both are together in reference to this "day of the Lord" (cf. 1 Thes. 5:1-8). Furthermore, the passage teaches that the coming of Christ will be **visible**. It will not be in secret (see also 2 Thes. 1:7-9; 2:8). It will be **audible**. Sounds will include a great noise (2 Peter 3:10), a sounding trumpet (1 Cor. 15:22), a shout and the voice of the archangel (2 Thes. 4:16). It will be **final**. So shall we "ever" be with the Lord. We will then receive our "spiritual bodies" (1 Cor. 15:31). We will not be returned to live in a material world on earth seven years later for a thousand year period.

1 Thes. 3:11-13 is used as a last ditch stand to affirm that Christ will come once FOR His saints and once WITH His saints (the millennial position). The fact is, however, that the spirits, the real beings of departed saints, have not remained on the earth in their graves. They returned to God's care at death (Eccl. 12:7). Christ will bring the righteous spirits of the departed with Him (1 Thes. 4:14) to be joined to their resurrection bodies and all His saints, living and dead, will meet Him in the air.

The Bible simply teaches that at the end of time, when God calls an end to the world, all the dead will be raised and a judgment of all will take place (Matt. 25:31-46; John 5:28-29; Rev. 20:12; Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10; John 12:48).

Are we able to calculate the time of His return? The answer is “NO”! Paul said, “**But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape...**” (1 Thes. 5:1-8; see also 2 Thes. 2:1-4). Since before the Millerites who predicted that the Lord would come in 1843, men have tried to determine what the Christ said could not be known until the Lord revealed it in actual happening. A long string of “Adventist” efforts have failed. Do not be deceived by these claims. Be faithful, remain ready, and anticipate His coming never doubting that in the Father’s own time, Christ will appear.

### **IN NEED OF PRAYERS:**

**Esmeralda Agustin** is struggling spiritually. Let us continue to make efforts in reaching out to her and pray that the Lord continues to show her mercy in providing time for repentance.

**Glenn Kimberlin** is shut-in.

**Rachel Crawford’s** aunt, Gail Stein, continues her treatments for breast cancer.

**Taylor Osterling** is still in the hospital though he is now in rehab preparing for discharge. It should be about two more weeks.

**Shannon Gilbert** is receiving treatments for breast cancer.

**Rachel Knollman** is now self-injecting three times a week at home.

**Kendra Albertson** has improved enough that this will be last time she will need to be in the bulletin. Let’s thank God for her recovery from the eating disorder.

**Robert Brundige**, Richard’s brother, is in Parkside Manor in Cynthiana dealing with some issues. **Sarah** Brundige, Richard’s mother, is in Cambridge Place Nursing Home and in need of our prayer.

Let’s also remember **David Day and his wife, Michelle Oxendine, Ron Catchen, Chuck McDavitt,** and **David Blakeman.**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

I will be away April 8-11 and 25-28 conducting meetings. Let me thank in advance those who will fill in preaching and teaching the class. We are fortunate to have so many willing and capable men.

### **BIBLE READING SCHEDULE FOR 4/4-4/10:**

**Sunday:** Lev 27, Ps 60, Luke 24

**Monday:** Num 1, Ps 61, John 1

**Tuesday:** Num 3, Ps 63, John 3

**Wednesday:** Num 4, Ps 64, John 4

**Thursday:** Num 5-6, Ps 65, John 5

**Friday:** Num 7, Ps 66, John 6

**Saturday:** Num 8-9, Ps 67, John 7

### **SERMON TOPICS:**

Sunday AM. The Eldership (Qualifications--3)

Sunday PM. Angry Words--2

### **CLASS INFORMATION:**

Lesson 12, II, B, 4 (1 Timothy 4:13-16)