
The Resurrection on the Last Day

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All through the New Testament the Christians greatest hope is the hope of the resurrection. Christ has promised that He will raise his people from their graves to eternal life. Christ's people will be raised to live in immortal bodies in the new earth where there is no death or sickness. Talking to the Jews on this event Christ says-



John 5: 24-29 *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the*

resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”

If a person believes in Jesus and in the Father who sent him is assured of everlasting life. He will not be condemned in the judgment. Jesus says that the work of judging is his so he will decide who inherits eternal life and who doesn't. Jesus will raise all people to life from their graves by the divine power that is in his voice. There are two resurrections, one to life without judgment and the other to condemnation to face judgment

John 6:39- 40 *“This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

Here Jesus says that he will raise his people to life on what he refers to as the “last day”.

John 6:43 *“Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

Any person who accepts Jesus as saviour has been drawn to him by the Father. Again Jesus refers to the resurrection as taking place on the last day. This last day is the last day of the earths history. The Apostle Paul writing to the Thessalonian church about this event says-

1 Thess 4:15-17 *“For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.”*

The dead in their graves are referred to as being asleep. They will be awakened from the sleep of death by the voice of Christ himself. The Lord himself will descend from heaven and with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, will raise the dead to life. Those who are still living at this time will be caught up (ie Raptured or Translated) with the resurrected dead to meet Christ in the air. This is the last day that Jesus spoke about.

Popular heresy in Christian churches today teaches that this event marks the beginning of a seven year tribulation. The truth is there is no seven years of tribulation after the last day. If there were Jesus wouldn't have called the day of the resurrection “the last day”.