

REMEMBERING JESUS' RESURRECTION

INTRODUCTION

- I. In the Old Testament as well as the New, there are recorded instances of individuals being raised from the dead—when clearly a death had occurred. Obviously, in such cases the POWER of one more powerful than man is involved—namely the power of GOD, who made the body and gives it life with the spirit within.
 - A. God began physical life in the garden of Eden. Gen. 2:7, 18-23; Eccl.12:7
 - B. Life does not consist of the physical body only, but there is the spirit or soul that God puts in every body that is born. Job 32:8; Heb. 12:9; cf Jas. 2:24
- II. The world fails to honor God, by remembering Jesus' **birth** at Christmas, and His **resurrection** at Easter, and only on these occasions.
 - A. There is no Biblical authority for such special days of remembrance.
 1. The word “Easter” is found only one time in the New Testament, in Acts 12:1-4
 2. The word is actually from the word that means “passover,”and is so translated in the ASV and NKJV.
 3. The reason it is translated “Easter” in the KJV is because the scholars in England who translated it were in the Church of England where the religious holiday was already being observed *at that time of the year so the word was used so as to identify with that season of the year in the minds of the people, rather than accurately identifying it.*
 - B. However, there **are** ways that we should and do remember Jesus' resurrection.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, let's study about the beginning and ending of physical life.

- A. Atheists and unbelievers in the Bible maintain that physical life began some millions of years ago, through some small item that came alive and evolved through various forms of animal life, and finally developed into the present state of mankind.
 1. All this is a theory, to try to explain life apart from the Bible.
 - a. Evolutionists do not explain **how** “something” stayed alive without the ability to have food and drink.
 - b. Neither can they explain the origin of that “something.”
 2. This theory does not really explain the existence of a body, and certainly does not explain the brain, one's mind and soul, as well as the distinction of male and female for the process of reproduction.
- B. The Bible gives us the story of **life** and **death**.
 1. God created mankind miraculously, with each body containing a spirit from God, and the ability to reproduce others. Gen. 1:26-28; 2:7, 18-24
 2. The Bible also tells us the cause of physical death—man's SIN. Gen. 2:15-17; 3:17- 19; Eccl. 12:7; Heb. 9:27

II. 2nd, let's consider the matter of life and resurrection of Jesus.

Acts 2:31. “He seeing this before spake of the **resurrection** of Christ, that his soul was not left in hades, neither his flesh did see corruption.”

A. Jesus was given a body at birth from the body of Mary, after the Spirit caused the conception, that He might be the “only begotten Son of God.”

1. He was given a body to be sacrificed for sin. Heb. 10:5-10
 - a. At birth, He was an infant with a body. Luke 2:7
 - b. In death, his life was taken by the Jews through the Roman soldiers. John 19:31-36
2. When Jesus died, He gave up His spirit into the care of God in the realm of Hades. Lk.23:46

B. Jesus made the promise that He would be raised from the dead. Matt. 16:21

1. His resurrection was a **victory** over death and the grave, and the power of Satan. Cf Gen.3:15
2. His resurrection is a part of the gospel that gives **us** the hope of being resurrected to eternal life in the last day. Tit. 1:2; 1 Cor. 15:20-23

III. 3Rd, let's consider how we are to remember Jesus' resurrection.

A. The New Testament says **nothing** about honoring Jesus and His resurrection only one day a year, at the time of the year He was raised.

B. However, there ARE ways we DO and SHOULD remember His resurrection.

1. 1st, we remember His resurrection as we **read** and **study** the scripture, and sing songs about His resurrection.
2. 2nd, we remember His resurrection each time one is baptized into Christ and **raised** in the likeness of His resurrection. Rom. 6:3-5
3. 3rd, we remember His resurrection as we **meet** on the first day of the week, on the day He was resurrected. Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Rev. 1:10...

CONCLUSION

I. God has given us assurance of the resurrection.

A. On the day of Jesus' death, there was a resurrection of “bodies” of saints, which went into the city and appeared unto many. Matt. 27:50-53 (Read)

B. On the day of His resurrection, great events occurred. Matt. 28:1-6

II. On the day of the general resurrection, the world will see billions of people who have died, being raised from the dead and going before the Lord in judgment. John 5:28-29

III. Are you ready for that day?

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