

Two Resurrections

There are people who do not believe in a natural resurrection, when in fact, the **Bible** speaks of two resurrections which will take place concerning everyone that was ever born. The first resurrection concerns the Bride of Christ, and the second resurrection concerns all of the remaining dead.

The first resurrection is spoken of in Thessalonians and is concerning both the living and the dead believers of Jesus Christ which have been gathering together from the first church age to the last day body of believers.

We teach here at the Fairborn Community Tabernacle, that there must be witnesses for everything taught. The word of God in the Bible, the message of the Hour by Bro. Branham, and the third witness is the Holy Spirit in you testifying of the things that are said.

The scripture says:

I THESSALONIANS 4:16-18 **The First Resurrection**

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

The scripture says that the dead in Christ shall rise first. Stating that the Bride of Christ will be the ones to get up in the first resurrection before anyone else. There is a process to the resurrection which might be discussed in another writing, for there are three steps to the resurrection. Shout, voice, and trump. All three happens in the coming of the Lord.

[BEGIN QUOTE]

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152 088 No, it's... The first thing is the sounding--or the first thing is the trumpet and a--or a voice--a shout, and then a voice, and then a trumpet. Shout, a messenger getting the people ready... The second is a voice of the resurrection. The same voice that, a loud voice in St. John 11:38 and 44 that called Lazarus from the grave. Getting the Bride together, and then the resurrection of the dead (See?), to be caught up with it. Now, watch the three things take place.

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153 089 The next is what? was a trumpet. A voice--a shout, a voice, a trumpet. Now, the third thing is a trumpet, which always at the Feast of Trumpets is calling the people to the feast; and that'll be the Bride's supper, the Lamb's supper with the Bride in the sky.

See, the first things comes forth is His Message calling the Bride together. The next thing is a resurrection of the sleeping Bride, the--the one that's died back in the other ages. They're caught together, and the trumpet, the feast in the heavens--in the sky. Why, it's--that's the thing that takes place, friends.

We're right there ready now. The only thing, the church coming out has got to lay before the sun to ripen. The great combine will come by after while. The wheat will be burned, the stalks, but the grain will be gathered into it's garner. See?

[END QUOTE]

Paul was looking for the resurrection and said that he had not already obtained it, but was trying to attain it. This has been the hope of the **Christians** since the beginning of the church and is the hope that we are comforted by.

Scripture:

PHILIPPIANS 3:9-12 Paul was looking for the 1st resurrection

9 ¶ And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

The Lamsa Bible stated the same promise of the resurrection worded a little differently:

The Lamsa Bible states:

11 That I may by any means attain the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not as though I have already attained or were already perfect; but I am striving that I may reach that for which Jesus Christ appointed me.

The above quote and scriptures are referring to the first resurrection. The comfort to the bride is the fact that this first resurrection was a promise and she has looked forward to this resurrection for two thousand years. Many have tired of the waiting and have devised other ways to do away with the resurrection into a spiritual event. But there will be a literal resurrection with a literal Bride and the rest of the dead will not literally get up until after the one thousand years.

The following scriptures are referring to the second resurrection. Anyone that does not rise in the first resurrection will get up in the second and final resurrection. You do not even have to believe in the resurrection to be in the second group. All the dead will hear the voice which is different from the first resurrection where only the Bride has access to the resurrection. This will be a general resurrection where all the remaining dead will be raised and brought before the judgement seat of Christ (which is his bride) to find out where they stood with the bride in their day.

Scripture:

JOHN 5:28-29 All the dead is in the 2nd resurrection

28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

29 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.

REVELATION 20:1-6 Satan bound 1000 years /The 2nd Resurrection

1 ¶ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and [I saw] the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast,

neither his image, neither had received [his] mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This [is] the first resurrection.

6 Blessed and holy [is] he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

There is much to be said about the thousand year period prior to the general resurrection and we will take the time to discuss the different things that Bro. Branham said about the chains and the reason for the thousand years in different lessons.

[BEGIN QUOTE]

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The question now arises, why are these righteous ones in the judgment? There is no other place that they can come up, for there are but two resurrections and since they could not qualify for the first resurrection they must come up in the second which is a resurrection unto judgment. The ones who qualify for the first resurrection (the bride) are not in the judgment. John 5:24, "Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life (that is, the believer is already the recipient of eternal life which he has in his possession now) and shall not come into condemnation (shall not come into the judgment, is what it really says) but is passed (permanently) from death unto life." But notice carefully, Jesus must have yet another group in mind who at a certain resurrection will receive eternal life. They will receive it at the resurrection, NOT HAVING PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED IT AS A MEMBER OF THE BRIDE. John 5:28-29, "Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming, in the 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." Now we all know that John 5:28-29 is NOT THE RAPTURE for only the dead in Christ will arise from the graves at that time along with the living bride who still is on the earth. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." But it says in John 5:28-29 that ALL are going to come forth from the grave. This is the very same resurrection that is spoken of in Revelation 20:11-15 wherein THE DEAD were brought before the Lord and judged according to their works, and all whose names were not in the Book of Life were then cast into the lake of fire.

[End QUOTE]

Brother Branham stated that there is only two resurrections planned for the future. Those who will be going to the judgement will not be in the first resurrection so it only leaves the second resurrection for them to come forth. Brother Branham clearly states that the first resurrection is for the Bride, for they are not judged at all. The judgement is for those who need to receive eternal life (or bring eternal life into manifestation in their lives).

We can see by the witnesses that there will be two resurrections, and if you are not a part of the Bride, then you will resurrect in the second resurrection for the judgement to see if you go into everlasting punishment or into eternal life. Thank God that the Bride does not have to worry about the judgement at all, for she will be judging the world as the wife of Jesus Christ.