

I AM THE RESURRECTION

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INTRODUCTION

A. TEXT: *“Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth on me, though he die, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth on me shall never die.”* (vs. 25-26)

B. SETTING:

1. Jesus had returned to Bethany.
 2. Lazarus had died.
 3. Mary and Martha met Jesus and said; *“Lord if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.”* v. 21.
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JESUS’ RESPONSE

A. *“Thy brother shall rise again.”* v. 23.

1. They did not doubt this.
2. But thought only of *“the resurrection at the last day”*.

B. *“I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE”*.

1. **THOUGH HE DIE; YET SHALL HE LIVE.**
2. **HE THAT BELIEVETH ON ME SHALL NEVER DIE.**

C. WHAT DID JESUS MEAN BY THESE STATEMENTS?

1. What was their understanding.
 2. *“Yea, Lord; I have believed that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, even he that cometh into the world.”* v. 27.
 3. Not a full understanding...but they began to see...
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THEIR RESPONSE

A. LIMITED to their understanding of their religion.

1. *“Thy brother shall rise....Their answer....”* I know he shall rise again in the Resurrection at the last day.”
2. They had thus far ascribed to Jesus personally no supernatural power.

B. THEIR THOUGHT!

1. These powers (resurrection) were only in God.
2. But bestowed by a request from Jesus.
3. *“Whatsoever thou shall ask of God, God will give thee.”*
4. It was to this attitude, this understanding that Jesus identifies himself as THE RESURRECTION!.

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C. "I, AND NO OTHER, AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE."

1. He was the origin, the design and the power of both!
 2. In no way were they obtainable except by Him. "*Except ye believe that I am He, ye shall die in your sins.*" (John 8:24).
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JESUS' EXPLANATION

A. FIRST: Though he die, yet shall he live...."

1. Signifies physical death.
2. Thus, the assurance that physical death is not the end.
3. Review and recap I Cor. 15.
4. The same word in the final clause of the first sentence is used in a spiritual sense to indicate that such a one will be spared the second death.

B. THE MEANING:

1. Whosoever believe in me even though he shall die (physically) shall live (spiritually) for ever.
 2. And he who now lives and believe on me shall for ever avoid spiritual death."
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THEOLOGY

A. THE ABSOLUTE PROMINENCE GIVEN IT IN NEW TESTAMENT.

1. Evidential: The Resurrection is the proof of the atoning character of the death of Christ, and His Deity and Divine exaltation.
2. Evangelistic: The primitive gospel included testimony of the Resurrection. (I Cor. 15).
3. Spiritual: Every aspect of the Christian life from the beginning to the end is some how associated there with. (Rom. 6).
4. Eschatological: the Resurrection is the guaranty and model of the believer's Resurrection. (I Cor. 15).
5. So our bodies are to be quickened (Rom. 8:11), and made like Christ's glorified body (Phil. 3:21).

B. HAD CHRIST NOT BEEN THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE....Then Christianity would have no:

1. Have no meaning.
 2. Have no Hope!
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CONCLUSION

A. IF CHRIST IS NOT THE RESURRECTION....Then Four Things:

1. Your Faith is vain.(I Cor. 15:14).
 - a. Man would lose confidence in God.
 - b. Trust in His Word would be destroyed.
2. “You are yet in your sins” (I Cor. 15:17).
 - a. Christ was raised for our justification (Rom. 4:25).
 - b. If no Forgiveness....No Peace; no Freedom; No Happiness; NO HEAVEN!
3. All which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. (I Cor. 15:18).
4. THERE WOULD BE NO!::
 - a. *“Let not your heart be troubled: believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions; if it were no so I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”* (John. 14:1-3).
 - b. *“”for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed unto him against that day.”*(I Tim. 1;12).
 - c. *“....henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day; and not to me only, but also to all them that have loved his appearing.”* (II Tim. 4:8).

B. “*WHEREFORE, MY BELOVED BRETHREN, BE YE STEADFAST, UNMOVABLE, ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the lord.*” (I Cor. 15:58).
