

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE?

Part 3: The Linchpin of Resurrection

"Can you find out the deep things of God?

Can you find out the limit of the Almighty?

It is higher than heaven—what can you do?

Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?" (Zophar the Naamathite, Job 11:7-8)

...therefore, let's not hesitate to say to some questions, "I don't know." There are "secret things" that "belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever" (Deut 29:29) that we might have hope, and "in this hope we are saved," even as we hope "for what we do not see" and "wait for it with patience" (Rom 8:24-25).

Our September itinerary:

- ◆ September 2: orientation
- ◆ September 9: where are those who have died?
- ◆ **September 16**: the linchpin of resurrection
- ◆ September 23: what can we know about heaven and hell?
- ◆ September 30: your questions (ask via jason.hardin@gmail.com or 614-286-6288)

1 Corinthians 15: an inspired master class on resurrection

- ◆ Paul reminds us of "the gospel" the Corinthians had received and in which they were standing (15:1-11). He had delivered to them "as of first importance" what he also received:
 - Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures.
 - Christ was buried.
 - Christ was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
 - Christ appeared to many on multiple occasions.
- ◆ "Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead..." (15:12-19)
 - Our preaching is vain and we are misrepresenting God.
 - Your faith is in vain, futile, and you are still in your sins.
 - Those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
 - Our hope in Christ is in this life only and we are to be pitied.

- ◆ “But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead...” (15:20-34)
 - He is the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep; in him shall all be made alive.
 - At his coming, those who belong to Christ will be raised from the dead.
 - Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.
 - Do not be deceived by those who say the dead are not raised and live with bad morals.
- ◆ “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” (15:35-49)
 - What you sow does not come to life unless it dies; what is sown is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel and God gives it a body as he has chosen, to each kind of seed its own body. So is it with the resurrection of the dead:
 - What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.
 - What is sown is sown in dishonor; what is raised is raised in glory.
 - What is sown is sown in weakness; what is raised is raised in power.
 - What is sown is sown a natural body; what is raised is raised a spiritual body; as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.
- ◆ “I tell you this...” (15:50-58)
 - Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; the perishable does not inherit the imperishable.
 - We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, at the last trumpet, when the dead will be raised imperishable.
 - When the perishable puts on the imperishable, Isaiah 25:8 shall come to pass and victory will be given through our Lord Jesus Christ.

For further reflection

- ◆ John 5:25-29: “an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice...”
- ◆ Acts 24:14-21: “there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust.”
- ◆ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17: “the dead in Christ will rise first.”
- ◆ 1 John 3:2: “when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”
- ◆ Philippians 3:20-21: he will “transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body.”
- ◆ John 11:21-27: “I am the resurrection and the life.”

Notes: