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In 1 Cor. 15:14-20, the Bible says that if Jesus did not rise from death, then our faith is in vain and that we are of all men most miserable.

If we die with Christ, crucified with Christ, if we suffer the loss, of all things just for the sake of Christ, and then we discover that there is no resurrection, what a waste. But glory to God, there is a resurrection. As Jesus said in John 11:25,

“I am the Resurrection and the life: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet he shall live”.

The resurrection Himself is Jesus Christ. Thank God there is a resurrection, and Jesus said it in Luke 20:27-36. The Bible talked about some people who came to Jesus and tempted him.



They said there was this man who had a wife, and he died without his wife having an issue. This man had six brothers, and they all married this lady.

They all kept doing it without an issue. Finally, the woman died. So they said at the resurrection, whose wife is the woman going to be? If there were no resurrection, Jesus would have said there was no resurrection.

All he told them was that they were making a mistake and that at the resurrection, there is no marriage. In other words, He made it clear that there will be resurrection.

THE CHILDREN OF RESURRECTION

Jesus went on to say that the true children of God are the children of resurrection. In other words, if you are not a child of the Resurrection, you are not a child of God.

But then there can be no resurrection unless there had been a crucifixion. You cannot talk of raising somebody from the dead who had not died.

So the children of the resurrection are [those who have been crucified with Christ](#), who now rose from the dead, those who had already said goodbye to the things of the world.

Who had decided to cut themselves off from every affection and every lust. These are the ones called the children of the resurrection.

Now, because they have died once, and now they are alive, like Paul said,

“I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live...”

They can no longer die, and God can now rely on them. **There are two resurrections:** there is the Resurrection of Life and there is Resurrection of Damnation.

In John 5:28-29, Jesus Christ said the children of the first resurrection are blessed children. That is, they are the children of the Resurrection of Life.

There is a gap of 1000 years between the first resurrection and the second. The first resurrection will bring all the children of God together, while the children of damnation will still be sleeping off.

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In that 1000 years, all those who have crucified themselves to the cross of Christ will be enjoying.

In other words, whatever you lose in this life, even if you lived to be 200 years before you died, you will earn a reward in the Kingdom of God for at least 1000 years.

We are talking of 1000 years, where the Bible says even the sun will not beat us by day because there will be no sun there. Jesus Christ Himself will be the Sun there. Can you imagine whether that is air conditioned for 1000 years?

In Philippians 3:7-11, Paul was talking about losing everything and counting them but all dungs that it might win Christ. He could look ahead and see what was coming.

He said if I can attain to the first resurrection, everything I have lost is nothing at all. We are saying that Paul looked into the future, and he saw the glory that is coming.

He saw the blessings that were waiting. He said, "All those things I said I have lost are like dung compared to the mighty blessings that are ahead. Let us say you live to be 200 years old.

Whatever you have cannot be compared to anything at all in the world to come.

But it was not Paul alone that had a glimpse of this first resurrection. According to Hebrews 11:35, the Bible says several people were in serious trouble and in danger of death. God said "I can deliver you.

I want to deliver you” but they said, “No Lord, let us die that we may attain to the first resurrection”.

We all know the story of Stephen very well. When he was being stoned, and he looked up to heaven, he saw heavens opened, He saw the glory of God and he saw Jesus Christ standing.

The Bible tells us that after Jesus finished His work here on earth. He sat down at the right hand of the Father on High. But on this occasion. He was so concerned about what was happening to Stephen that He stood up.

Just one prayer. If Stephen had said, Lord, help me. Deliver me.” Instant deliverance would have come. But when he saw the glory there, he said, “Lord, receive my spirit. Let me come over.

These people were conscious of the first resurrection.

Romans 6:5 says,

“For all we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection”.

If we are crucified with Him, when we are resurrected, we shall be like Him in

His resurrection. If we can get to that stage when we are utterly dead to the world, that we are crucified to the cross, certain things will begin to happen to us.

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Even our physical bodies will begin to resemble the body of Jesus Christ. Because we are like Him in death, we will then become like Him in His resurrection.

AN INCORRUPTIBLE BODY

If we die with Him and are Resurrected with Him, we will have an incorruptible body. 1 Cor. 15:35 and 42 talks of that kind of body. It is a body that is incorruptible, a body that death can have no power over and [a body that cannot be tempted with sin](#).

This is because when we decided to crucify ourselves to all the things that the world will call success, certain things will begin to happen. For example, our body will become healthier.

Why?

Because all the things that God forbade the children of Israel from eating are what rich people of the world now call delicacies, things like crabs and snails.

These are the delicacies of the rich.

Everything God said don't touch are the things they love because that is the way to show they have made it, and they eat it so that they can die young. But when you do not measure your values like the world measures its own, suddenly, your body will begin to respond.

THE GLORIOUS BODY

1 Cor. 15:43 talks about that body as being a glorious body. The body will become a body of glory. I have always told you that it is difficult to define glory. I have always told you that it is difficult to define glory.

When you look at the face of someone who is not worried about today, who is not worried about tomorrow, who is not worried over a wife or children or not worried whether he has money or not, then you will see a kind of peace that will begin to radiate and shine.

The body will also be a body of power

Some people want power before they are crucified. They want the Almighty God to give them power, but they are not yet crucified with Christ.

This is a dangerous thing because if God give you power before you are dead to the world, that power will destroy you.

After all, you will commercialise the power. The power then will separate you and your God. And you may discover that power may ultimately lead you to hell. Because God said there are people on the day of judgment who would say, "In your name, we raised the dead. We performed Miracles.

And he is going to tell them, "I don't even know you. Depart from Me." This is why you must die first, then you will rise and begin to enjoy His resurrection power.

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THE SPIRITUAL BODY

If we die and resurrect with Him, we will have a spiritual body. People will look at you and will still think you are wearing the same body as their own, but because you have crucified unto you, then God will now be able to entrust you with such a body that anyone you touch will receive a miracle.

This is because God knows that you can no longer be corrupted. After all, you have died, and you are now risen.

He knows you have reached a stage where there can be no temptations to

entice you at all. What is anyone going to offer you that is going to lead you astray when you know that you have nothing? Anything they give you goes back to Him. It becomes impossible to lead you away from Him.

This brings us to one question. If we are going to die before we put ourselves on the Cross, what guarantee do we have that we will rise?

In John 6:39-40, 44 and 54, even though God is not talkative, Jesus in one chapter of the bible repeated the following four times.

“I will raise you up”

When God repeats something twice, this must be something very special. But now He repeats it four times. In Cor. 6:14, Daddy Himself , God the Father, says,

“Even if the Son does not raise you up, I will raise you”.

And then in Romans 8:5-11, the Holy Spirit says,

“I will raise you Up”.

So you have the assurance of God the Father, God the Son and the Holy Spirit,

that you are willing to die, they are willing to raise you up, so that you can begin to have a life of someone who rose from the dead. This is why I am encouraging you once again.

PRAYER

Spend a few minutes talking to the LORD. Disclose anything that remains in you that is not dead in Him. Anything that is of the flesh must die, and die today because when you die, God will raise you. Talk to him now.

Action Point

PS: I know you might agree with some of the points raised in this article or disagree with some of the issues raised.

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