

## II Corinthians 5; Lord's Day 22

### THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY AND LIFE EVERLASTING

- I. The soul resurrection.
  - A. Faith in the resurrection of the body includes faith in the resurrection of the soul.
  - B. The Bible teaches an immediate experience of glory for the soul (intermediate state - the state of the believer's soul after death till Jesus' returns and raises the body).
    1. Death is the terrifying separation of the body and the soul - without the body, the soul cannot function in this world.
    2. Thus Scripture speaks of deceased saints as "asleep" (Matt. 27:52; I Cor. 15:6; I Thess. 4:13; Mark 5:39).
    3. The believer's communion with Christ is not broken by death, but intensified.
  - C. While the intermediate state is increased communion with Christ, it is not perfect for three reasons.
- II. The resurrection of the body will take place when Jesus returns (John 5:28,29; I Thess. 4:16,17).
  - A. Scripture concerning the resurrection of the body.
  - B. We need our bodies in heaven as much as we need them on the earth.
  - C. God miraculously and graciously calls our bodies out of the dust and makes them like the glorious body of Christ (I Jn. 3:1).
    1. Jesus' bodily resurrection is the cause of the resurrection of the bodies of those who are in Christ (I Cor. 15).
    2. Faith in the risen Christ is a faith which believes in the glorious bodily resurrection (Rom. 8:23b).
- III. We are raised to "life everlasting."
  - A. This is the blessedness of perfect, unending life of joy and praise!
  - B. In this life, we know only a little of this glorious life, because it is other worldly.
  - C. Promised to us is a future which is the future of Christ and of all who share in His benefits.
  - D. Death is made a servant which brings us to God and to this glory.