

THE RESURRECTION PLAN
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST – PART 7
1 CORINTHIANS 15:24-28

GOD’S RESURRECTION PLAN

1. Jesus’ resurrection was the “**first fruits**” of the bodily resurrection of the redeemed who have died (1 Cor. 15:20).
2. Sin cursed the world because of **one** man’s actions, and the resurrection of **another** Man brought healing (1 Cor. 15:21-22).
3. Jesus is the first fruits of the **full** harvest that will be resurrected at His **second coming** (1 Cor. 15:23).

KEY THOUGHT: The redeemed will have been resurrected to eternal **life**, and the unredeemed raised to eternal **death** (Rev. 21:8).

I. JESUS, THE REDEEMER OF LOST SOULS (1 COR. 15:20-22)

II. THE BELIEVERS, THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN REDEEMED (1 COR. 15:23)

III. THE NEW KINGDOM, THE RESTORED WORLD UNDER GOD’S RULE (1 COR. 15:24-28)

A. There is an **interval** of time that is **unknown** until the harvest is recovered (Matt. 24:13, 36, 42, 44, 50).

1. We do not really know if there is an **interval** of time **between** the resurrection at Jesus’ second coming and the establishment of His kingdom (1 Cor. 15:24).
2. The time period would coincide with the **resurrection** of the saints and the collection of the **elect** (Matt. 24:29-31).
3. The **end** (*telos*) refers to “the completed act” of the **ages** and the **restored** world being handed to the Father to supremely rule (1 Cor. 15:24).

B. Jesus' final act of work is to permanently **conquer** every **enemy** of the Father (1 Cor. 15:25).

1. This transition period is **1,000 years** of Christ's millennial rule (Rev. 5-20).

2. Christ will rightfully take back the **title deed** to earth (Rev. 5:3-5).

3. At the end of the Millennium, Satan will briefly be allowed a final **rebellion** (Rev. 20:7-9) before being eternally sentenced to **hell** (Rev. 20:10-15).

C. The last enemy to be defeated is **death** (1 Cor. 15:26).

D. Jesus returns the Creation to the Father to rule **perfectly** (1 Cor. 15:27-28).

1. Jesus **fulfilled** every aspect of the **assignment** of redeeming Creation and mankind.

2. Christ rules at the Father's **pleasure** over the restored Creation (Matt. 28:18; John 5:27; 1 Cor. 15:28).

KEY THOUGHT: After completing His role as **servant** to the Father, Christ will reign **eternally** (Rev. 11:15).

FOR FURTHER STUDY AND PERSONAL GROWTH

March 13, 2011

SUNDAY: ***Jesus was the “first fruits” of the bodily resurrection of the believers (1 Cor. 15:20-23)!*** Jesus was the first permanent resurrection of the redeemed. He is the “first fruits” of the harvest of souls that will be resurrected in bodily form when Jesus returns a second time (1 Cor. 15:21, 23). Sin cursed the world because of one man’s actions, and the resurrection of another Man brought healing (1 Cor. 15:21-22). Jesus brought believers victory over sin and death. Our lives are hidden in Him, and Jesus has become our lives (Col. 1:1-4). We are gloriously saved from personal and spiritual destruction. The redeemed will be resurrected to eternal life with God, and the unredeemed will be raised to eternal death (Rev. 21:8). This is God’s Resurrection Plan. Are you part of the redeemed? Do you know for sure? It is important to find someone who can help you be absolutely sure. Praise the Lord for His victory over sin and death! Rejoice in your security in His house for eternity. ***May the joy of your security motivate you to love on those that need to know God’s love and the peace of salvation!***

MONDAY: ***Adam brought the curse of sin to mankind, and Jesus brought the healing of forgiveness with His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20-23)!*** Jesus, the Son of Man, is the Redeemer of our souls (1 Cor. 15:20-22). His death, burial and resurrection has brought victory over sin and given every believer eternal life (John 3:14-16). Our salvation will be completed at the second coming of Jesus and our bodily resurrection from the dead. As believers, we will be heirs of God (Gal. 3:29; 4:7). Not everyone who has lived has been redeemed. Those that died without accepting Christ were guilty of the ultimate sin of rejecting Jesus. There are people in your life that you desire would come to faith in Christ. How can you be a person of blessing in their lives? What is the best way to present the truth of salvation to these precious people? Praise God for your salvation, and ask for His mercy and grace to be poured out over those you desire to come to faith. ***May the power of the resurrection bring great boldness to your witness for the Lord!***

TUESDAY: ***The second coming of Christ will bring the resurrection of the saints and the collection of the elect (Matt. 24:29-31)!*** There is an unknown interval of time until the harvest (Matt. 24:13, 36, 42, 44, 50). We also do not really know if there is an interval of time between the resurrection at Jesus’ second coming and the establishment of His kingdom (1 Cor. 15:24). Whatever the time period, it would coincide with the resurrection of the saints and the collection of the elect (Matt. 24:29-31). The end of the ages is also covered in the overview. The end of the ages means that the world will be restored to its creation splendor and given to the Father to supremely rule (1 Cor. 15:24). Though we do not have all the details of the timeline as believers, we have the important order of what will take place at the end of the age. Pray that you will be diligent to build the kingdom of God as if tomorrow was the absolute last day before Christ’s return. To whom would you speak to and share the message of salvation? ***May the fire of immediacy help you push beyond your human fears to be used in significant ways by the Holy Spirit!***

WEDNESDAY: *Jesus' final act is to conquer every enemy of the Father (1 Cor. 15:25)!*

The transition period of the Millennial reign of Christ is 1,000 years (Rev. 5-20). The Lord revealed a good outline of the events through John's inspired writings in Revelation. It begins with Christ rightfully receiving back the title deed for the earth (Rev. 5:3-5). The entire chapter 5 regales the wonderful celebration. At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be allowed one more brief final rebellion (Rev. 20:7-9) before being eternally sentenced to hell (Rev. 20:10-15). Justice will have prevailed in the kingdom of God! We live between the Resurrection of Jesus and His second coming with the bodily resurrection of the saints. What should you be doing during this precious time? How can you make a contribution? What gifts has God given you, and how will you use them? Sit quietly before God to seek His clear direction for your service. Are you willing to be submissive to the leadership He places over you? Commit to the Lord your willingness to be faithful to Him in the days ahead. *May the commitment you just made become something the Lord can use to reach others for salvation!*

THURSDAY: *The last enemy to be defeated is death (1 Cor. 15:26)!*

Death is the enemy that man fears. Mary and Martha were perplexed with Jesus when He arrived after Lazarus had died and was already buried. In fact, he had been in the tomb for four days already before Jesus arrived (John 11:17). Martha understood the resurrection at the second coming of Christ, but struggled with defeating death in this life (John 11:21-27). Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and proved that He had power over life and death (John 11:39-44). Jesus defeated death completely the day of His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:26). Death was the last enemy to be defeated. Do you comprehend the depth of the reality of eternal life with God? This life is but a time to serve God in preparation for spending an eternity with Him. What are the obstacles in your life to serving God? Where and in whom do you currently invest your time? How can you adjust that investment to include ways to serve God more fully and build His kingdom? Pray for the strength and courage to be a soldier in the army of God. *May these thoughts craft a purpose and give meaning to your life in Christ!*

FRIDAY: *Jesus fulfills His assignments from the Father and assumes His role of Lord of Creation (1 Cor. 15:27-28)!*

Jesus came to earth as a baby, and lived with men until He began His ministry around age 30. Jesus taught, preached, healed, performed miracles, and disciplined the 12 men that traveled with Him. Jesus died at the appointed time in God's plan, was buried, and remained in the grave for three days. On the third day Jesus arose and was bodily resurrected. He appeared to His disciples and other followers, and He ascended in front of a large crowd in Galilee. Now, Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father until He will come again. On day, Jesus will rule at the Father's pleasure over the restored Creation (Matt. 28:18; John 5:27; 1 Cor. 15:28). The resurrected believers will be involved in the kingdom that Jesus rules over. That is in the future, and you are living in the present. How do you plan on impacting the kingdom of God now? Pray for your assignment, and be obedient to complete your assignment. *May this be a clarion moment in your life and ministry that yields you great clarity!*

SATURDAY: *Christ will reign forever (Rev. 11:15)!*

The final trumpet includes the 7th bowl, the final judgments, and all the events of the Millennial kingdom that lead to the coronation of Jesus in chapter 19. The long rebellion of the world will be over, and Jesus will be the single ruler that will victoriously defeat all the enemies of God. This kingdom will be given to the Father who also owns it (1 Cor. 15:24). Praise God that your bodily resurrection as a believer puts you in the middle of all of it! *May this be a driving force in your ministry to build the kingdom of God!*