

Healing At Pool Of Bethesda

John 5:1-29

Part 3

Introduction.

1. Following the healing of the crippled man at the pool of Bethesda Jesus gave some very important teaching in regard to the resurrection.
2. He will speak of two resurrections - one present and one future.
3. One occurs every time one comes to Christ, and the other one will come at the end of time. (Col. 2:12; 3:1-2; Acts 24:15).

Two Resurrections

John 5:25 "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour [the time] is coming and now [already] is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

- "Dead" is not used here to refer to those who were literally dead.
 - The word "dead" is a reference to the spiritual dead, that is, dead in sin.
 - They are lost and separated from God because they are walking in the darkness.
 - Many of those "dead" in sin would "hear the voice of the Son of God" and those who obeyed it would "live."
 - "Live" means they would become God's spiritual children and would enjoy His blessings in this life and in eternity.
1. It is clear Jesus was not referring to a physical resurrection, but to a spiritual resurrection.
 - a. Note the words "and now is."
 - b. Those dead in sin could come to the Lord and enjoy His rich blessings including the forgiveness of sins.
 - c. **This was true then and it is still true!**
 2. It had reference to those who were dead in sin, but would become alive spiritually by hearing and obeying "the voice [the salvation message] of the Son of God."
 3. "Voice" has reference to the words of Jesus and the words of the apostles and to the seventy whom Jesus commissioned to proclaim His words. (Lk. 10:16).

Luke 10:16 "The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

4. The word "dead" [in sin] is used to describe the pre-Christian state of sinners. (Eph. 2:1, 5; Col. 2:13).

Eph 2:1 And you were **dead** in your trespasses and sins,

Eph 2:5 even when we were **dead** in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

Col 2:13 When you were **dead** in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

5. Those who hear [obey] Jesus will “live” [be saved], that is, have eternal life. (Heb. 5:9).

John 5:26 "For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself;

1. Both the Father and the Son can impart life both physical and spiritual.

2. They are the source of life. (Gen. 1:1-27).

a. God created everything through His Son. (Jn. 1:3; Heb. 1:2).

John 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

Heb 1:2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, **through whom also He made the world.**

b. They created all kinds of life in nature. (Gen. 1:12).

c. They created all life in the lower creation. (Gen. 1:20-25).

d. They also created man. (Gen. 1:26-27).

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Gen 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

3. This spiritual life is not imparted on different terms, but it is granted only to those who obey God's beloved Son.

4. Those who reject Christ will be lost forever. (Jn. 3:36; 8:24).

John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, **but the wrath of God abides on him.**"

John 8:24 "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am {He,} you will die in your sins."

John 5:27 and He [God the Father] gave Him [the Son] authority to execute judgment, because He is *the* Son of Man.

1. Jesus had and has “all authority” given to Him by His Father. (Matt. 28:18; Jn. 17:2).

Matt 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

John 17:2 even as **You gave Him authority over all flesh**, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life.

a. Jesus is now reigning at the right hand of God in heaven. (Matt. 26:64; Acts 2:32; Heb. 1:3).

b. He is our King, our Lord, our Ruler, the Captain of our salvation!

2. God will judge all men through His beloved Son. (2 Cor. 5:10; Acts 17:30,31).

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Acts 17:30 "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all {people} everywhere should repent,

Acts 17:31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

See also Matt. 25:31-46;

3. Matthew, Mark and Luke describe "the son of Man" [Jesus] as the One separating the good from the evil at the end of time when Jesus comes the second time. (Matt. 13:41; 25:31; Mk. 13:20; Lk. 21:36).

Physical Resurrection At The End Of Time

John 5:28 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour [the time] is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice,

- A spiritual resurrection of countless men and women, boys and girls is certainly an important reason to marvel and give thanks.
- But there is another reason to marvel and that is the physical resurrection at the end of time.

1. Jesus spoke here of the physical and universal resurrection at the end of time.

a. "All who are in the tombs" will be raised from the dead.

b. "Tombs" is used for "graves" regardless of where the body might be or its condition.

c. The body is destined for the grave and returns to the dust of the earth. (Eccles. 12:7; Dan. 12:2; Gen. 2:24).

d. Some might be in the depths of the sea and others might have their remains scattered by the four winds.

1) The body normally returns to the dust of the earth over a period of time after burial.

2) Sometimes there is no body in a grave due to an explosion, being devoured by a beast or for other reasons.

3) Some choose to be cremated and have their ashes scattered.

e. **The power of the Almighty God is not limited to a location or the state of the body!**

2. This will be a universal resurrection of all who have lived - "all who are in the tombs."

- a. Acts 24:15 also speaks of the universal resurrection - "there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked."
- b. Daniel wrote these words about the coming resurrection. (Dan. 12:2).

Dan 12:2 "**Many** of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace {and} everlasting contempt.

- 1) Some Bible students are troubled by the fact Daniel used the word "many" rather than "all" as Jesus did.
- 2) They take this to mean Daniel was saying a large portion of the righteous and of the wicked would be raised, but not all as Jesus taught.
- 3) They fail to recognize the use of what is known as the synecdoche, that is, by which a part stands for the whole.
- 4) Jesus used the word "many" when He instituted the Lord's supper by affirming His blood was to be shed for "many." (Matt. 26:28). Paul later, by inspiration, made it clear that Jesus "gave Himself a ransom for all." (1 Tim. 2:6).
- 5) Paul wrote the Roman saints and taught as a consequence of Adam's sin "death passed unto all men." (Rom. 5:12). Later in the same chapter he argued that "the many" died as the result of Adam's trespass. (Rom. 5:15).
- 6) The "many" in Daniel 12:2 is a synecdoche standing for "all."

c. The righteous will be raised "on the last day." (Jn. 6:39, 40, 44).

John 6:39 "This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.

John 6:40 "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

John 6:44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.

- d. Jesus is here in John 6 emphasizing the resurrection of the righteous - not the universal resurrection at the end of time when He comes again.
- e. He was not teaching the resurrection of the wicked would be at another time, but was **giving assurance** to all who would believe in Him and become His faithful followers.
- f. Their allegiance to Him would demand great sacrifices and persecution and perhaps even death.
- g. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 is not teaching two resurrections, but is correcting a problem some had developed in regard to the resurrection of the righteous.

1 Thess 4:13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope.

1 Thess 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

1 Thess 4:15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1 Thess 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of {the} archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Thess 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Thess 4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1) Some believed the living in Christ had an advantage over the dead in Christ.

2) Paul quickly revealed this was an erroneous conclusion.

3) The physical dead in Christ will be raised first, that is, before the ascension.

4) Both will then ascend at the same time to meet Jesus in the air. (1 Thess. 4:17).

1 Thess 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

5) Both will be with Jesus “always” [forevermore]. (1 Thess. 4:17).

6) This earth is destined for destruction. (2 Pet. 3:10-13).

2 Pet. 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, **and the earth and its works will be burned up.**

2 Pet. 3:11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

2 Pet. 3:12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, **because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!**

2 Pet. 3:13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

7) The “new heavens and a new earth” is the believers new dwelling place - heaven. (Matt. 5:10-12; 6:19-21; 1 Pet. 1:4; Jn. 14:1-3).

3. The resurrection of the righteous and the wicked are not 1,000 years apart, but will happen simultaneously when Christ comes the 2nd time. See notes on John 5:27.

John 5:29 and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment.

1. The righteous will be raised “to a resurrection of life.”

a. This is a reference to eternal life with God in heaven.

b. Believers will be raised with new spiritual bodies (1 Cor. 15:51-53).

1 Cor 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,

1 Cor 15:52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1 Cor 15:53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

c. They will ascend to be with the Lord “always, forevermore.” (1 Thess. 4:17).

d. Our citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20), and we are mere pilgrims on this earth. (1 Pet. 2:11; Heb. 11:13).

Phil 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

1 Pet 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

Heb 11:13 All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

e. We should rejoice that our names are written in heaven and one day we will see God. (Lk. 10:20; Matt. 5:8).

Luke 10:20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."

Matt 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

2. “Those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.”

a. Only those who submit to Jesus have their sins forgiven and are saved.

b. Those who reject Him and pursue evil deeds are doomed to a resurrection of condemnation.

c. They will be raised from the dead, but will be cast into hell. (Matt. 25:41, 46).

d. The righteous will live in the heavenly abode Jesus has prepared for them. (Jn. 14:1-3).

Jn. 14:1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

Jn. 14:2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

Jn. 14:3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.

Conclusion.

1. In the next lesson Jesus will emphasize He was not acting by His own authority, but by the authority of the Father who sent Him.

2. He will also give the witnesses to His identity and authority.

3. This lesson, following the healing at the pool of Bethesda, is most important and must not be overlooked by truth seekers then and now.

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