RESURRECTIONS

Don't we all want to know what is going to happen to us at the end of our lives? Where will we go? What will really happen to us? Many may not truly understand when they will be resurrected. Let's dig into this today.

I am combining a teaching by



Dr. David R. Reagan with Lion and Lamb Ministries,



Perry Stone with Manne Fest

and myself.

Let's get comfortable with the fact that there will be more than one resurrection. Resurrection is not the same thing as rapture. Let's not fight about the word rapture, it is in our Bibles under the Greek word harpazo which is a catching away or snatching up or departure away.

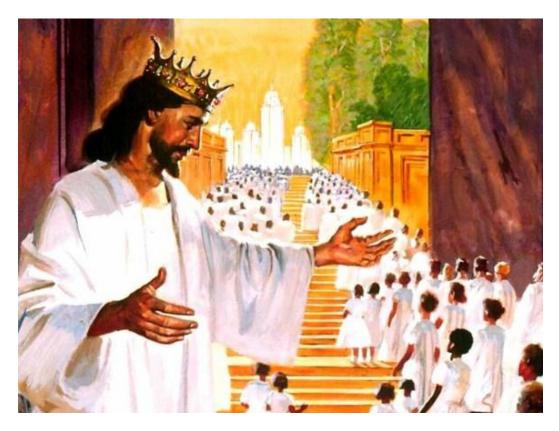
MULTIPLE RESURRECTIONS:

Resurrection definition: a living being coming back to life after death.

John 11:25-26 – Jesus said unto her, I AM the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?

Jesus clearly taught that there would be multiple resurrections.

John 5:28-29 – Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice. And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.



Jesus refers to a resurrection of life, which is eternal life with Him in heaven.

And a resurrection to damnation, a life of eternal torment and punishment.



The Apostle Paul spoke of the two resurrections as well.

Acts 24:15 – And have hope (Paul) toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

Some people believe that everyone will be resurrected and judged at the same time. Thus being only one resurrection and one judgment. But this is not true.

There will be more than one resurrection of the righteous, in fact there will be several resurrections. The resurrection of the just will occur in stages.

1 Cor.15:20-24 – But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming. Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the Kingdom to God, even the Father, when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.



Jesus rose from the dead on First Fruits – He is the First Fruits.

Matt.27:51-53 – And, behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top (God did it – not man) to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after His resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto any.



The Bible doesn't say if these saints then ascended when Jesus did or if they had to go through physical death a second time. But remember Lazarus, Jairus' daughter and the widow Nain's son, they all passed through physical death a second time.



Jesus is the Firstfruits unto God

The Bible teaches the concept of sewing and reaping. A time of planting and a time to harvest. The Lord laid out specific rules for harvesting. When your first fruits began to come in you would cut a small portion out of the field and take it to the high priest to wave as an offering before the LORD. By doing this you were offering thanksgiving to God for your harvest and this is how you would receive His blessing on the rest of your harvest to come.

Exodus 34:26a – The first of the firstfruits of your land you shall bring unto the house of the LORD thy God.

Deut. Ch. 26 is about firstfruits.

THE HARVEST IMAGERY

In Bible times the harvest was conducted in three stages. It began with the gathering of the first fruits which were offered as a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God. Our firstfruits today is the 10% of your paycheck that belongs to the house

of God. The New Testament church gave all they had and lived together and had church in each others houses and took up collections to help other churches.



The next part of the harvest was the general harvest.

This is when you would gather in the main field. But God required the corners of the field to be left for the poor and needy. This was called gleanings.

Lev.19:9-10 – And when you reap the harvest (main harvest) of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I Am the LORD your God.



Think of Ruth, she was out there gleaning for herself and her mother-in-law.

Most of us around the world don't have crops or a harvest. So did God just decide the poor and needy and the stranger in the land could just lump it? That was for then and we don't do that anymore? Think about this verse.

Matt.25:34-40 Read this

Yes, Jesus expects us to help those that need help. This pleases our King.

James 1:27 – Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Using the imagery of a harvest the Bible presents the resurrection of Jesus as the "First fruits" of the resurrection of the righteous.

Per David Reagan -The gathering of the Church Age saints, living and dead, at the appearing of the Lord (The Rapture) is thus the general harvest stage of the resurrection of the righteous.

Perry Stone – on the gathering of the Church Age saints (Ditto above) except he believes the church is also first fruits after Jesus. I believe this also as Dr. Reagan's teaching doesn't cover one of the righteous resurrections which we'll get to in a minute.

1 Thess.4:13-18 - Read this

Jesus was caught up, and we'll be caught up too. He's our example. He's goes first and we are second.



The dead in Christ will rise first, and then we which are alive and remain.



What a glorious day that is going to be!

The next harvest is the main harvest. This is of the 144,000 sealed Jews/Israelites and the mid tribulation martyrs.

Rev. Ch. 7 tells about the 12 tribes of Israel and the 144,000 Jews being sealed and protected through the tribulation until they are resurrected in chapter 14.

Rev. 14:1-5 – Read

Just after the 144,000 go up to heaven, Jesus reaps during mid tribulation, the tribulation martyrs.

Rev.14:14-16 - Read



Here Jesus is on the cloud with His sharp sickle ready to reap the earth.

Now the last stage of the harvest which is the resurrection of the elect remnant would be the gleanings. It occurs at the end of the tribulation when Jesus returns to the earth which is known as His second coming. At that time two final groups of the righteous will be resurrected.

Matt.24:31 – And HE shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

One group that is resurrected is the tribulation martyrs.

Rev.20:4 – And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus (tribulation martyrs) and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their

foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived (resurrected) and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Dan.12:1-2 – And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which stands for the children of thy people (Dan.10:21 he is the protector of Israel), and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

This is speaking of the Old Testament saints. They are not the church, they did not die <u>in Christ</u>. Remember in the rapture it was the dead <u>in Christ</u> that rose before those that were still alive. All the saints here are all dead but some will rise to everlasting life and some to everlasting shame – so this is not the rapture.

Remember that the rapture was a promise to the church only. The book of Daniel makes it clear that the Old Testament saints will be resurrected at the end of the "time of distress."

We know that they will be raised before the millennial reign because King David will be shepherding the people again, he will be vice regent under Jesus' rule.

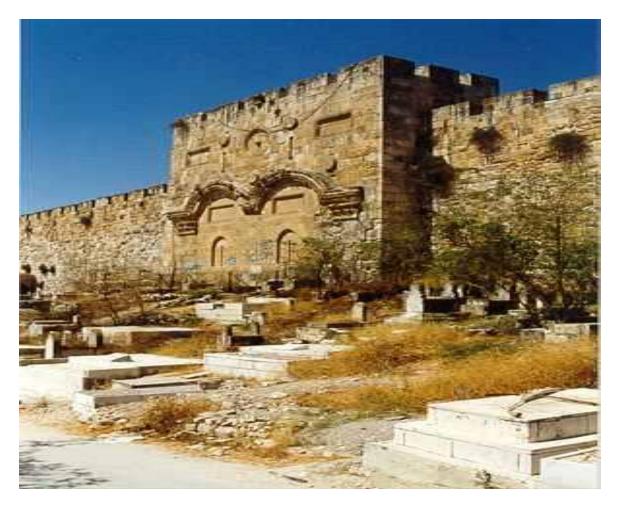
Hosea 3:5 – Afterward (when Israel returns to the LORD) shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.

Remember Jehovah means: unchangeable intimate God, I AM. Rev. 1:8 Jesus is I AM and see Isaiah 41:4

Jer.30:9 – But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them.



Ezek.34:22-24 – Therefore will I save My flock (Israel – they have not been replaced by the church), and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle. And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even My servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. And I the LORD will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it. **This is not speaking of Jesus being the LORD'S servant David here, sometimes it is stated that David is His father (Luke 1:32 – He will be given the throne of His father David) because of his throne that was promised to his descendents. But Jesus was never called servant after He was resurrected.**



THE EASTERN GATE: In 1517 the Turks conquered Jerusalem and sealed the gate.

Ezek. 44:1-2 talks of the eastern gate being shut and that no man will enter in by it. **Prophecy yet to be fulfilled.**

Ezek.44:3 – It is for the prince; the prince, he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD; he shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the way of the same. **Interesting note that King David who is the prince of Israel will sit in the eastern gate and eat bread before the LORD and enter by way of the porch of the eastern gate and exit by it also. **Ezek.37:25** states that King David is Israel's prince for ever.**

So to recap the resurrections of the righteous: First was Jesus, the First Fruits, then the church (dead saints and those who are alive and remain), then the 144,000 and the mid trib. Martyrs, last the old testament saints and the post trib. Martyrs.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE UNJUST

The second type of resurrection is the resurrection of the wicked.

Acts 24:15 – And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and **unjust**.

The resurrection of the unjust will take place all at one time, at the end of the millennial reign of Jesus. This will be at the Great White Throne Judgment which is the judgment of the damned. Every person who ever failed to relate to God in faith will be resurrected at this time,



regardless of when he or she may have lived and died – whether before or after the cross. This resurrection will also include the unjust who died during the tribulation and the millennium.

There will be no need for an additional resurrection of the righteous at the end of the millennium, because all those born during that time who accept Jesus as their Savior will live to the end of the Lord's reign.

Isaiah 65:19-20 – And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There

shall be no more thence an infant of days (dying prematurely), nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed. *The sinner dying at only age one hundred was because he was cursed.*

Isaiah 65:22,25 – They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: <u>for as the days of a tree are the days of My people</u>, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. 25 – The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, saith the LORD.



Cedars of The Lord in Becharri, Northern Lebanon. Four of them, many hundreds if not thousands of years old... *These are the kind of trees that King Solomon built the Lord's temple out of. 1 King 5:6.* Life spans during the millennium will be returned to what they were at the beginning of the time, before the flood.

Here is a great promise to those who are walking intimately with Jesus Christ:

Heb.9:28 – So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Have you let Him bear your sin? Or are you still carrying it around with you?

References:

Perry Stone's "Breaking the Apocalypse Code"

Dr. David R. Reagan's teaching: Resurrections and Judgments

https://www.raptureready.com/featured/reagan/dr8.html