

Revelation 20; Lord's Day 22

I BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY

- I. The resurrection of the soul.
 - A. Man is made up of body and soul (internal: mind, will, conscience, emotions).
 - 1. There is the resurrection of the soul before the resurrection of the body, so it is called the “first resurrection” (Rev. 20:4,5).
 - 2. Death breaks up the union of the body and the soul.
 - B. The resurrection of the soul is immediately after physical death (Luke 16:22; 23:43).
 - 1. This we know with certainty, but its exact nature is unknown to us who are still only earthly.
 - 2. As wonderful as it is, our soul's existence in communion with Christ gets better.
 - C. Holding these truths from Scripture, we reject other teachings: annihilation, “soul sleep” and purgatory.
- II. The resurrection of the body (the second resurrection).
 - A. This takes place when Jesus returns (John 5:28,29; I Thess. 4:16,17).
 - B. With what body?
 - 1. While we see the body die and be buried (turns to dust), it shall be raised (Job 19:26).
 - 2. Our bodies are created material now and they will be created material in glory, i.e., a visible creature.
 - 3. The form of our resurrected bodies will be such that they will be perfectly fit to glorify God forever.
 - C. The same faith which embraces God and Christ embraces the hope of the resurrection of the body.
 - 1. We are saved totally - not just our souls, but also our bodies.
 - 2. For those exercising faith, death is without sting and the grave is without victory.