

## **Th122 Foundation Doctrines**

### ***Lesson Th122 – 25 Resurrection of the Dead – The Wicked***

The king had led his army off to war. He knew that he would be gone for at least a year, perhaps two. Before he left he called together his leaders and appointed them to rule over the land in his absence. Two years later the king returned to find his kingdom in chaos. He then sat upon his throne and began to call the people of his kingdom to come to his court. Over a few months' time he had called everyone. He spoke to those who had been loyal to him, and those who had caused trouble and had been rebellious. In order for the king to pass judgment, everyone had to appear before the throne. And in a similar way, one day the King will sit upon his Great White Throne and call all of mankind before him to be judged.

Now, the return of Jesus to the earth completes the three phases of the First Resurrection. The three phases are: 1) Jesus' resurrection which was the Firstfruits resurrection. It also served as the proof of the promise that all of Christ's followers would one day be resurrected. 2) The second phase of this resurrection will be the Rapture of the Church. And, 3) the last part of this resurrection will be when Christ returns to the earth. All three of these make up what is called the First Resurrection. The apostle John wrote, "Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years" (Rev 20:6). This is important to understand, since Jesus taught that there would be a Second Resurrection. In this lesson, we will learn about the Second Resurrection.

Jesus will return to the earth, leading a tremendous heavenly army. Satan, the fallen cherub that has deceived the entire world, will be captured, bound, and thrown into a bottomless pit, where he will be imprisoned for 1000 years. Jesus will set up his throne in Jerusalem where with the help of the resurrected believers, he will rule over all of the earth. This 1000 years is called the Millennium. Now all the earth will be populated with the unbelievers who survived the seven years of tribulation. Jesus and the saints will rule over them for the entire Millennium. At the end of the 1000 years, Satan will be released for a short season. He will stir up all of the unbelievers and will lead a revolt against Jesus and the saints. But Christ will call down fire from heaven which will devour them all. It is at this time that the history of mankind upon the earth will come to an end and the time of judgment will begin.

This is what the apostle John saw in his vision which he recorded in the Book of Revelation:

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works (Rev 20:11-13, NKJV).

There will be a Second Resurrection of the dead. It will happen right before the Great White Throne Judgment. This resurrection will be the resurrection of the unbelievers—the wicked dead. They will be brought back to life to stand before God for judgment. Indeed, blessed are those who have a part in the First Resurrection. Those who have a part in the Second Resurrection will have to stand before God for eternal judgment. In our next four lessons, we will learn what the Bible teaches about eternal judgment.

This lesson is **important** because you have learned how those who die without Christ will be resurrected and will stand before God to be judged for their deeds.

The **main truth** of this lesson is that unbelievers too will receive supernatural spirit bodies at the time of the Second Resurrection. These wicked are raised to appear before the Great White Throne judgment.

To **review** the lesson, answer the following questions:

1. What are the three parts of the First Resurrection? [Pause 5 seconds]
  - A. If you said that Jesus' resurrection, the Rapture, and the Return of Christ comprise the First Resurrection, then you are right.
2. Who will be resurrected in the Second Resurrection? [Pause 5 seconds]
  - A. If you said, "The wicked will be resurrected from the dead in the Second Resurrection," you are correct.
3. Why are the wicked resurrected from the dead? [Pause 5 seconds]
  - A. If you answered that the wicked are resurrected from the dead in order for them to be judged, then you answered correctly.

Your **assignment** for this lesson is to listen to this lesson and the previous three lessons in order for you to completely understand the first and second resurrections. Please meet with a group of people and teach them about the first and second resurrections.