

ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course

SECTION 3 – The Six Foundational Doctrines

Lesson 10 - Resurrection from the Dead & Eternal Judgment

Hebrews 6:1-2 *Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.*

In the early Church and throughout Church history, they constantly talked about the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment.

Psalm 49:15 *But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, For He shall receive me. Selah*

God shall receive my soul from the power of the grave. There is a literal resurrection. It is not a symbolic thing. It's not an ethereal thing. There is a literal resurrection from the dead. This is one of the great foundations of what Jesus was teaching that He came preaching the good news; the good news not just that we can be forgiven, but the good news that He came to destroy the power of death so we can be raised up with Him for all of eternity.

Isaiah 25:8 *He will swallow up death forever,
And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces;
The rebuke of His people
He will take away from all the earth;
For the LORD has spoken.*

The Bible says that God will swallow up death forever. According to the researcher George Barna, "This generation is more fascinated and more obsessed with death than any other generation in recent history." They are so consumed with the concept of death, you'll see it in the movies and video games. You see whole groups that dress up in black all the time, or black makeup. There is this fascination, but there's actually a deep fear about death. We have the message that Jesus came to say that through His power He has swallowed up death. He has broken the power of death and there will be a literal resurrection.

Isaiah 26:19 *Your dead shall live;
Together with my dead body they shall arise.
Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust;
For your dew is like the dew of herbs,
And the earth shall cast out the dead.*

The earth shall cast out the dead and will not be able to hold the dead in it. Jesus said that we're going to arise because He arose. There's a level of this that has already been fulfilled, and yet a level of this that is yet to be fulfilled. Now we know from history when Jesus rose from the dead an amazing thing took place.

ARMED FOR WAR **Discipleship Course**
SECTION 3 – Lesson 10

When Jesus rose from the dead, what amazing thing took place?

When Jesus was raised from the dead there was such power of life that flowed through His body that life shot through the ground and started causing other people to pop up out of the grave. They were seen walking in the streets. They rose up when Jesus rose up and that was the foreshadow of the coming resurrection of the dead.

Daniel 12:2 *And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt.*

There's going to be a resurrection, but not everyone is going to live with Him for an eternity. Some of them will be raised to everlasting life, but some to shame and contempt. There is coming a resurrection. You know the Bible talks about that we should mourn at birth and rejoice at death, and yet we do totally the opposite. We rejoice at birth and we mourn at death.

Matthew 22:31-32 *But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."*

They are alive! They exist. People are always asking is there life after death? Yes there is, but let me phrase it this way: there is existence after death. You are either going to exist in eternal life with God, or you are going to exist in eternal judgment in the belly of Hell. And that is up to your choice and what you do with your life. But there is a resurrection from the dead.

1 John 3:2-3 *Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

The Bible says those that have this hope of resurrection will purify themselves.

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) *Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

The word 'perish' there literally means to become unrestrained or undisciplined.

Proverbs 29:18 *Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.*

When there is no prophetic insight, when there is no vision of the future, when there is no revelation of the purpose of God, the people become undisciplined/unrestrained. But when we

ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course
SECTION 3 – Lesson 10

have a hope of a resurrection, a hope of an eternity with Him, a hope of never dying then we will not fear sickness. We will not fear pain. We will not fear what man can do to us and we will not be wrapped up in the things of this world, because we know they are temporary. They will have no power. And when we have this hope it gives us the power and the force to walk in purity.

*Faith is the substance of things hoped for,
and if you don't have hope you can't have faith.*

If you have no hope there's nothing for faith to attach itself to. The hope of a resurrection and life with Jesus will drive you to want to live holy.

That's why one of the great deceptions that we have in our day today is that most of the teaching that's coming from the pulpits in America is about how you can be successful in this life. But the early Church preached about the next life. The Bible says, "Set your mind on things above, not things on the earth." (Colossians 3:2) When you get your mind, focus, and hope on eternal things there's a power released in you that will allow you to walk pure before God. The resurrection of the dead should be a message that we preach constantly. It is a glorious, breakthrough understanding.

John 5:19-29 *Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*

What two events are going to take place at the resurrection of the dead?

Isaiah 34:8-10 *For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, The year of recompense for the cause of Zion. Its streams shall be turned into pitch, And its dust into brimstone; Its land shall become burning pitch. It shall not be quenched night or day; Its smoke shall ascend forever. From generation to generation it shall lie waste; No one shall pass through it forever and ever.*

ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course
SECTION 3 – Lesson 10

Brimstone literally speaks of a substance found in the belly of the earth, in the core of the earth. Jesus and the Bible preached fire and brimstone. It was a warning to those who would reject Christ. “It is given unto men,” the Bible says, “once to live and then judgment.” (Paraphrasing Hebrews 9:27) Then you’re going to face the Judge and He is going to say, “Your sins are covered by the blood of Jesus, enter into My Kingdom.” Or, He is going to say, “You are guilty of all these sins and be casted out.”

What is the eternal judgment for those who reject Jesus Christ?

Matthew 3:12 *His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”*

Matthew 18:8 *If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire.*

There is an eternal judgment.

Matthew 25:41 *Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:*

A literal fire, a literal torment, a literal place that is prepared for the devil and his angels is prepared for those who reject Jesus Christ. Now I’m not saying just those who say, “I don’t believe Jesus existed, because there were many claiming to know Jesus. Jesus said, “In that day many will come unto me and I will say, ‘depart from me you workers of iniquity’, for I never knew you.” (Matthew 7:23)

Luke 16:19-31 *“There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’ “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my*

ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course

SECTION 3 – Lesson 10

father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

He's talking about a literal death, a literal torment, a literal hell, a literal paradise, a literal separation: this was a literal story. This is a great warning. Not only for the ungodly, not only for those who rejected Moses and the law, but a great warning for those also who served God at one time and walked away.

Hebrews 10:28-31 *Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

2 Peter 2:21 *For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.*

It goes on to say they're like dogs returning to the vomit. He says the judgment will even be greater for them. There is a judgment for those who have not received Jesus Christ. They are in eternal torment. Every one of us is born worthy of going to hell. Every one of us has fallen short of the glory of God. Every one of us deserves hell.

A loving God gave us a way to get out of hell. A loving God gave us a way to be raised from the dead. A loving God gave us a way to walk with Him through eternity. He was rescuing us from hell. We were already on our way.

There is a resurrection from the dead. We are going to rise up and be alive forever and ever. And there is an eternal judgment with a literal hell, a literal fire, and literal brimstone. The same place that is reserved for the devil and his angels is reserved for those who reject Jesus Christ.

For Further Study:

Topic: Resurrection

Matthew 27:50-53 *And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.*

1 Corinthians 15 (entire chapter)

ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course
SECTION 3 – Lesson 10

Topic: Eternal Judgment

2 Thessalonians 1:8-10 *in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.*

Revelation 20:11-15 *Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on 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. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*