

1st Corinthians Chapter 15 part 2

The First Resurrection!

Compilation of prophetic commentaries by Gaetan

1CO.15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. (Col.1:18)

1PE.1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

MAT.27:50-53 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top 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 many.

It was quite a miracle which occurred when that heavy curtain thicker than any fabric or cloth you have ever seen or any rug or drapery was suddenly split right down the middle, split in two, in twain! Now from this passage you can tell exactly what happened and when. It says that the bodies of the saints which slept arose, came out of the graves AFTER His resurrection. Therefore, who was the first one to be resurrected, to rise from the dead? --Jesus! He was the FIRST FRUITS, as Paul



says, He was the first one to rise. What about these other bodies getting resurrected? It does not say their spirits.

"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"

How about that? Well, there it is, right there in your Bible. Read it for yourself. Many of these things happened right at the time of His crucifixion, obviously, but these saints were resurrected after His resurrection!

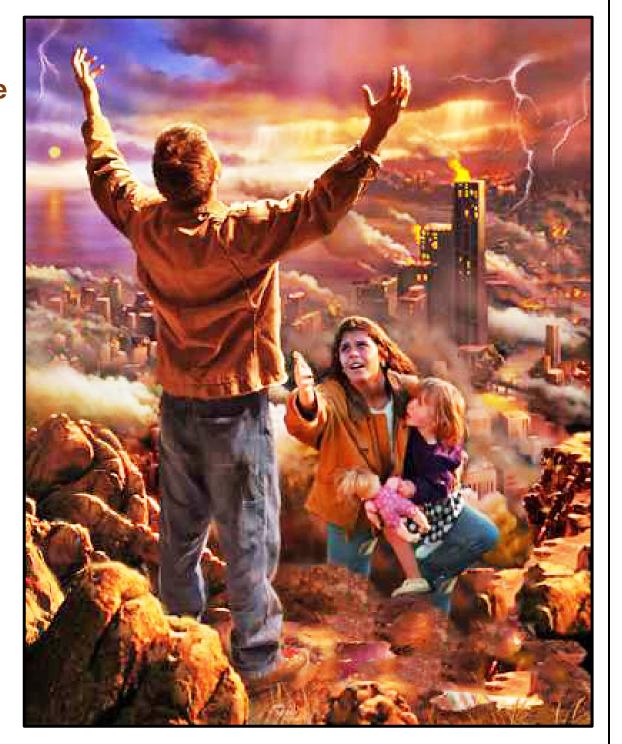
Apparently, many of them got to have their resurrection a long time ago, after Jesus rose, and He's been enjoying their fellowship ever since in the Heavens just like He promised!

1CO.15:21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. (Ro.6:23)

1CO.15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1CO.15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

First, they were Christ's, the "firstfruits" of that first resurrection, Christ and the Old Testament Saints, and then all of us who are saved at the time of Christ's Second Coming, the Rapture. "The first fruits" resurrection, that's a commonly accepted theological term because they call Christ the first fruits of that resurrection, and other theologians include all those Old Testament Saints who were resurrected at the time of Jesus's Resurrection.





God's Word says, "and every man in his own order." Which indicates there is more than one Resurrection! After Jesus was resurrected, as we already mentioned it earlier, many of the bodies of the saints came out of the graves and appeared unto many. That was perhaps the first part of the First Resurrection. Obviously, those people were resurrected. So of course, they could only have been those who had already died, saints who had already passed away during the Old Testament period. One can only wonder what happened to these people, but the Scriptures don't say anything further about them. We can only speculate.

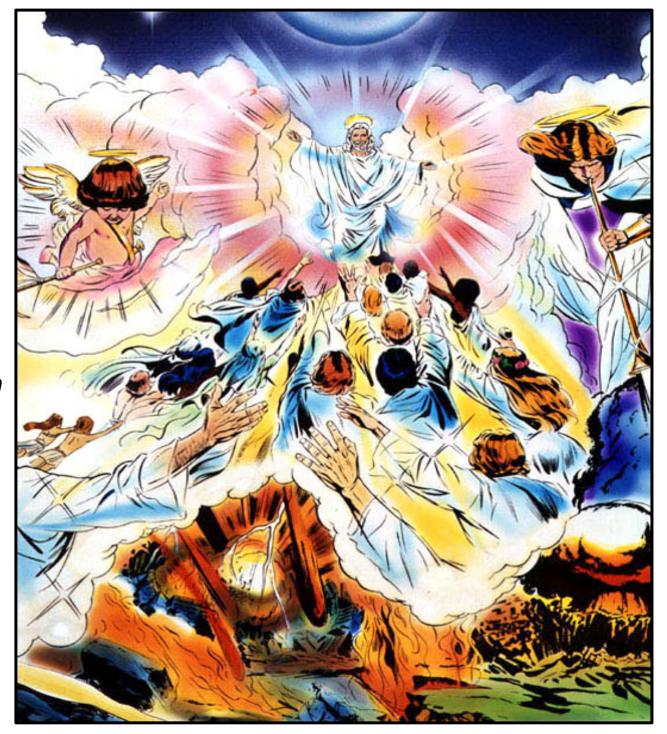
There is another resurrection at Jesus' Second Coming during the Rapture:

1TH.4:14-17 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (See also Mat.24:29-31)

John wrote in Revelation: "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: On such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years." (Rev.20:6.)

So this "first" resurrection will be a resurrection of only the saved, (the believers) of those who love Jesus, of all those who belong to Him.



The first resurrection seems to include the Old and New Testament saints. The New Testament



Saints are raised when Jesus comes at the Rapture at the end of the Tribulation. Well then, the Old Testament saints resurrected at the time of Jesus' resurrection must have also been considered a part of the First Resurrection! Though it was in two installments, first the Old Testament saints at the time of Jesus' resurrection, and then the New Testament saints at the time of the Second Coming, both are included in the First Resurrection.

Now if there is a first resurrection, there must also be a second resurrection, and if you read about the Great White Throne Judgement of God, (Rev.20:11-15) you'll find out that, of course, there is. But the next resurrection, the resurrection

of the unsaved, the second resurrection, is not going to occur until after the 1,000-year Golden Age rule and reign of Christ on Earth known as the Millennium.

And we are sorry to say that many of those who don't make the first resurrection are going to be suffering and learning some pretty hard lessons in Hell and a few other places during that time. --So, what you don't want to do is miss the first resurrection!

1CO.15:24 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.

1CO.15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

DAN.7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. (Dan.2:44)

MAT.28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

REV.20:4 And I **saw thrones**, and they sat upon them... and judgment was given unto them: **and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.**



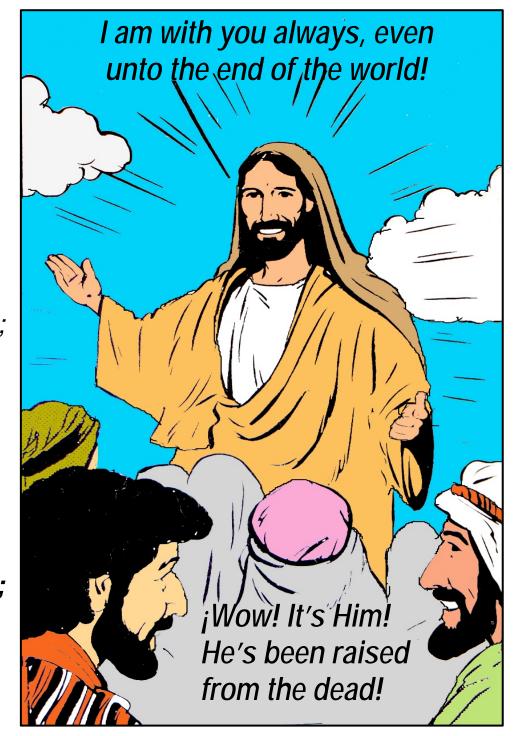
1CO.15:26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. (Rev.1:18)

ISA.25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.

2TI.1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

REV.21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

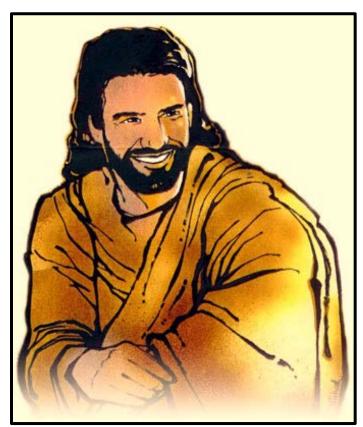
The Scripture says that this is why Jesus came into the world: "That He by the grace of God should taste death for every man ... that through (His) death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the Devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." (Hebrews 2:9,14,15)



"I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus said, "he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die!" (John 11:25,26)

He's the only One Who can deliver us out of the jaws of death so that we can pass through it without sting--through the grave with victory for us! Jesus completed His task of proclaiming the Good News of Salvation to the World, and He gave His life, and was crucified by His self-righteous religious enemies. Then three days after His lifeless body was laid to rest in the grave, Jesus arose from the dead, conquering death and Hell forever!

The Bible tells us, "God so loved the World (you and me) that He gave His only begotten Son (Jesus), that whosoever believes in Him, should not perish but have Everlasting Life."--John 3:16.



All you have to do now to come into a full and living personal relationship with the God of Love is to simply believe on Jesus and accept His free gift of Eternal Life! You can receive Him at this very moment, please pray this simple prayer:

"Jesus, please forgive all my faults. I accept that You are the Son of God and You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen"

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