

ALIVE *Again!*

1. Scripture records multiple accounts of physical resurrections that have already taken place.

- A. Scripture contains **TEN** historical resurrection accounts.
- B. Jesus' own resurrection was **UNIQUE** among all these, in that He did not die again. All the others did.

Romans 6:9 *We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.*

- C. These resurrections were meant to provide a **FORETASTE** of the future “fulltaste” of God’s coming eternal kingdom.
- D. They were all **PREVIEWS** of the coming resurrection of all of humanity.

***Easter shows us that there is a power that is stronger than death!**

2. Scripture predicts the future physical resurrection of everyone who dies.

- A. There are **MORE** resurrections to come.

John 5:28 *Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice²⁹ and come out...*

- B. In God’s plan there is a specific **ORDER**.

1 Corinthians 15:22 *For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.*

- C. There are differing opinions about the relative timeframes, but it seems that **BELIEVERS** will be raised first—Revelation 20:4-6
- D. It appears there will be a select group who will not need to be **RAISED** because they will not **DIE**—1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
- E. Two primary categories of resurrection are mentioned

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

John 5:28 *Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.*

- F. Beyond resurrection, an eternal existence awaits **EVERYONE**.

Hebrews 9:27 *And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment...*

Matthew 25:46 *And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.*

***Easter guarantees us that the power that raised Jesus from the grave will raise us too!**

3. Scripture also reveals a present Spiritual Resurrection in which all who entrust their lives to the crucified and risen Lord Jesus receive His life NOW!

Ephesians 2:4 *But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ...*

John 10:10 *The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*

***Easter holds out the promise and possibility of a new kind of life in the here and now—Coming Alive to God!**

- A. This **NEW LIFE** only comes from Jesus, the Author of Life.

1 John 5:11 *And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

- B. This new life is what the human soul **CRAVES** and searches for.

John 1:4 *In him was life, and the life was the light of men.*

- C. This new life **AWAKENS** a soul to new **SPIRITUAL** realities.

- D. This life is a new **QUALITY** of life—eternal life—that includes knowing and relating to God as a **FATHER** and participating in the life of His Forever Family.

John 17:3 *And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

John 5:24 *Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.*