

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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3/27/16 - Resurrection Sunday Special

Salvation Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Salvation from sin

Man's Perspective ("tenses")

- Positional (from penalty of sin)
- Experiential (from power of sin)
- Ultimate (from presence of sin)

Sanctification Perspectives

God's Perspective

- Sanctified (set apart for Him)

Man's Perspective ("phases")

- Positional (imputed R+ / judicially)
- Experiential (imparted R+ / daily)
- Ultimate (completed R+ / eternally)

Celebration

"What good is celebrating 'Easter' unless the fullness of Christ's work is first understood? Furthermore, regarding our current series, why even put our faith in Salvation and Sanctification Perspectives unless it is first rooted in Christ's death AND resurrection?"

Resurrection Addresses Theodicy

A believer's great hope pivots on resurrection. It is instrumental in their deliverance in time from the pressures of evil in this world.

Heb 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

In Prison?

If you've ever felt completely cut off from others, in a figurative (or possibly, literal) "prison", you must concede that God has a plan for you during that time. Being "lonely" has its benefits!

Your Redeemer Lives!!!

You may feel lonely, but you are never alone. You may feel like an alien, and you are, for you are citizen of Heaven. You may even feel as though you've lost touch with others, but that's to be expected.

Practical Sanctification

Shedding fear and anxiety may be better thought of as "leaving behind" rather than "pushing away through exertion". To move towards love (aka God) is to be sanctified. That person is focused on the prize in front, not the rubble behind (ala Php 3:13-14).

Barnes on Rev 1:18

He had been put to death; but he had risen from the grave. This also is given as a reason why John should not fear; and nothing would allay his fears more than this. He now saw that he was in the presence of that Saviour whom more than half a century before he had so tenderly loved when in the flesh...

Barnes on Rev 1:18 (cont.)

...and whom, though now long absent, he had faithfully served, and for whose cause he was now in this lonely island. His faith in his resurrection had not been a delusion; he saw the very Redeemer before him who had once been laid in the tomb.

Resurrection Sunday

On this day, we not only celebrate Jesus' resurrection (and our own as a result); we celebrate the fact that because of His resurrection, the Word as a whole, has been vindicated! His promises are true - Amen - our Redeemer lives!!!

If the Dead Are Not Raised?

Then our faith is a fallacy. The issue of theodicy is vain.

If the Dead Are Not Raised?

Then we are false witnesses who misrepresent God.

If the Dead Are Not Raised?

Our future salvation is a sham and our deliverance in time, therefore, impossible. We have no reason to be secure, content, or peaceful.

If the Dead Are Not Raised?

The dead have returned to dust. Heaven is reserved for God alone. We are beset with fear of death instead of excitement. There's no resurrection to judgment, therefore our earthly behavior is influenced by futility.

If the Dead Are Not Raised?

We are pathetic. We ought to just live for the moment instead of for eternal life.

Hallelujah!

We don't worship a dead man. Our Redeemer lives!