

The Resurrection of the Dead

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Romans 8:1-39

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I. Our Sure and Certain Hope

The Book of Common Prayer speaks of “*the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead.*” It is not the *sure and certain hope* of _____; it is the *sure and certain hope* of the _____. So why is it *sure and certain*? It is *sure and certain* because it is founded upon the resurrection of Jesus. Our hope is not mere speculation.

II. Resurrection Power (Romans 8:1-17)

A. Introduction (8:1-2)

Paul teaches that those who are in Christ will walk in newness of life. God does not leave His people to wallow in the same frustration and sin in which He finds them; He lifts them out of their bondage.

B. Set free from the power of sin (8:3-8)

How does the Spirit free us from the power of *sin*? He does so by enabling us to live _____. The law could not do this because of our sinful nature. We sin because we want to sin. It is our desires that need to be transformed.

C. Set free from the power of death (8:9-11)

How does the Spirit free us from the power of death? The Spirit assures us that we shall be _____ from the dead. He doesn't assure us that we shall go to heaven when we die but that we shall be resurrected from the dead.

D. Indebted to Righteousness (8:12-17)

Therefore, we are under obligation to live by the power of the Spirit, to put to death the sinful nature. It is only those who pursue holiness by the power of the Spirit who are _____ of God. *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.* As sons, we shall inherit *the ends of the earth* (Ps 2:8) with Christ.

III. Resurrection Hope (8:18-27 cf. 1 Cor 15:42-45)

_____ itself is longing for our resurrection. Why? Because when our resurrection is accomplished, then the creation itself will be set free from its bondage. Just as we are waiting, sensing the renewing power of the Spirit in us while continuing to struggle with our sinful nature and with the fallenness of the world, so all creation is waiting.

IV. Resurrection Glory (Rom 8:28-30 cf. Col 1:18)

How do we know that all things work together for good? Because not even death can thwart God's promises! God predestined His people to experience the same transformation, the same resurrection that was accomplished in the life of His Son. Because Christ is risen, we too will be raised. The end of our salvation is _____, in other words, resurrection.

V. Resurrection Assurance (Romans 8:31-39)

The promise of the resurrection is the promise that all the promises that God has ever issued to His people will be fulfilled. All the promises are yes and amen in _____. Because Jesus is risen and by His resurrection has overcome sin and death, because through Him and the power of His Spirit all creation will one day be renewed and resurrected, all the promises of God will reach their fulfillment. Not one promise will fall to the ground.

V. Conclusion