

# THE RESURRECTION CONNECTION

(1Corinthians 15:20-28)

## Understanding the NATURE of the resurrection reveals the CONNECTION between the resurrection of Jesus and the resurrection of believers

### • The NATURE of the resurrection

- NOT merely a future hope; BUT a present fact
- NOT a symbol of a spiritual resurrection; BUT a bodily resurrection (corporeal)
- NOT a resuscitated corpse; BUT the emergence of a new order of life
- Explanation: *1Cor 15:42-44, 51-54; 2Cor 5:1-5*
- Illustration: *Mark 16:9-13; Luke 24:30-31; John 20:17-20; 21:13-14; Acts 1:1-4*

### • The CONNECTION between the resurrection of Jesus and the resurrection of His followers (20-28)

- 20, 23 “*first fruits*”
  - The resurrection of Jesus was an event that took place before its time—an *eschatological* event—to assure us that our own resurrection-event will take place as well
  - Christ’s was the first true resurrection and the actual beginning and assurance of the resurrection of believers which will occur when Christ returns—a *proleptic provision of our destiny*
  - The concept of “*first fruits*” implies second and third fruits, later fruits. Who will be included in the later fruits is answered by a look at Adam and the second Adam, Jesus Christ
- 21-22 present Christ as the second Adam. Theologically, all humans are *in Adam*, but only those who believe are *in Christ*. Compare:

#### “*In Adam*”

- The first Adam secured our death
- We experience mortality
- We experience spiritual death
- We experience physical death
- There is a solidarity of guilt
- All in Adam die

#### “*In Christ*”

- The second Adam secured our life
- We experience immortality
- We experience spiritual life
- We experience eternal, physical life through resurrection
- There is a solidarity of forgiveness
- All in Christ live

- 23-28: glimpse at order of future events
- 26: *the last enemy to be destroyed is death*

### • Our RESPONSE