

## The Doctrine of the Great White Throne

### Introduction

1. In general there are two returns from the dead. The two are: resuscitation and Resurrection.

2. Resuscitation, as used in this doctrine, is a coming back from the dead to ultimately participate in either the First or Second Resurrections.

2.1 Two examples of resuscitation are Paul at Lystra while on his first missionary journey (Acts 14:19-20 compared with 2 Co 12:1-5) and the resuscitation of Lazarus. (Joh 11:32-45)

Acts 14:19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

Acts 14:20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

2Co 12:1 I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord.

2Co 12:2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know--God knows.

2Co 12:3 And I know that this man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows--

2Co 12:4 was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell.

2Co 12:5 I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.

2.2 Let me read you what H. A. Ironside has written concerning Paul's stoning at Lystra and the possible nexus of Acts 14:19 and 1Co 12:1-4.

“And so this is apparently the end of Paul's ministry. They dragged that seemingly lifeless body out of the city and threw it on the refuse heap. Let the jackals devour it. They were done with Paul. But God was not done with him. I like to think this is the very time Paul had the experience of which he speaks in the second Epistle to the Corinthians (12:2-4): ‘... I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven ... caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.’

“I believe at that very moment they thrust Paul’s body away, the real Paul—the man who lived inside that body—was in the third heaven. God said, as it were, ‘I want to show you what I have in store for you.’ Up there Paul did not know whether he was in the body or not. If in his body, he did not know it; if out of his body, he did not miss it.

“He was in paradise and heard unspeakable things which it is not lawful for a man to utter. How long he was there we do not know. We do read that as the body lay there the disciples stood round about, evidently making plans for the funeral, probably with tears streaming down, saying ‘What shall we do? We shall have to lay his poor broken body away. “But he suddenly rose up! I should have liked to have seen that.”’

### 3. Jesus comes to the aid of the two sisters of Lazarus.

Joh 11:32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother Lazarus would not have died."

Joh 11:33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.

Joh 11:34 "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.

Joh 11:35 Jesus wept.

Joh 11:36 Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

Joh 11:37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Joh 11:38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance.

Joh 11:39 "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

Joh 11:40 Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

Joh 11:41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me ...

Joh 11:43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

Joh 11:44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

Joh 11:45 Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.

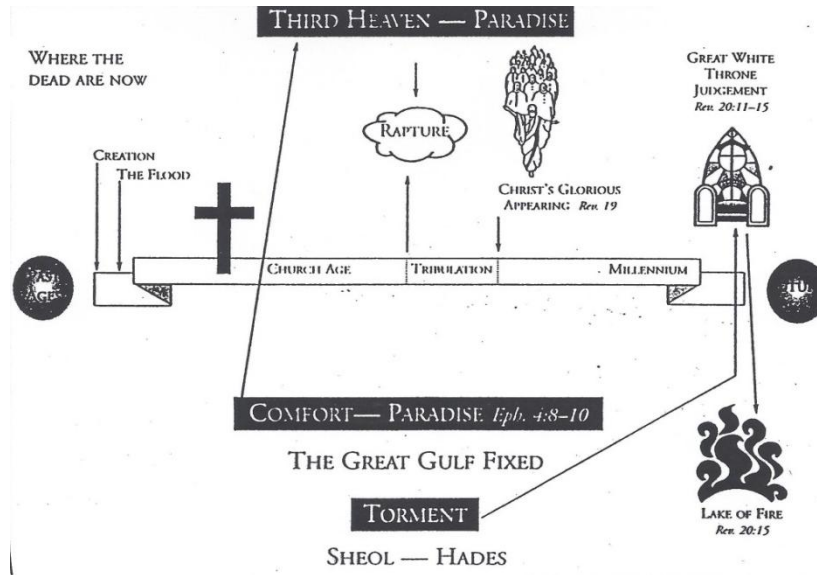
4. The Resurrection, as it relates to Christ and his followers, is that point in time where a new body is received and death is no more. There are four such Resurrections in this classification and these four make up what is known as the First Resurrection. The Resurrection of unbelievers is called the Second Resurrection.

4.1 The four Resurrections for the believer are: Christ on the first Easter; believers at the Rapture; Old Testament saints and Tribulation martyrs at the Second Advent and millennial saints at end of the Millennium.

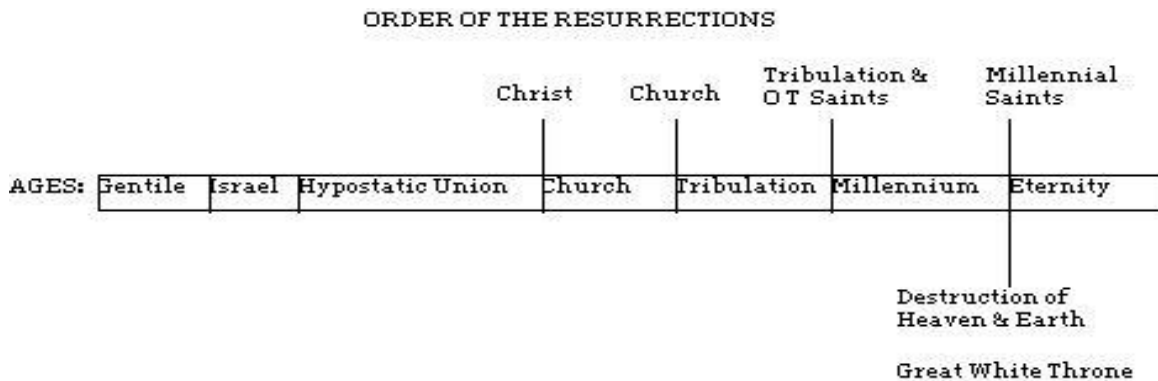
# The Great White Throne

1. The Resurrection as it relates to the unbeliever occurs at the Great White Throne where unbelievers are resurrected to receive a body capable of everlasting punishment in a place designed for the Devil and his demons. Mat 25:41.

Mat 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:



2. As earlier noted, there are two general types of Resurrections. They are called the First and the Second Resurrections. Let's look at the order of the First Resurrection.



3. The Second Resurrection is only for unbelievers.

Rev 20:4 I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge ... They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended ...

Rev. 20:6 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 1000 years ...

Rev 20:14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

Rev 20:15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

4. The second Resurrection is a Resurrection to damnation at the Great White Throne because their name was not found in the Book of Life.

NAME	DEBITS		CREDITS	BALANCE
	SINS	GOOD WORKS		
ORIGINAL Sinner (Unbeliever)	+	0	None	Condemnation
Believer	+	+	+R	SALVATION
Unbeliever	+	0	None	Condemnation
ORIGINAL Sinner (Believer)	+	+	+R	SALVATION
Believer	+	+	+R	SALVATION
Believer	+	+	+R	SALVATION

### Summary

1. There is a Resurrection to life. There are a number of passages which teach this distinct part of the Resurrection program.

Luk 14:13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,  
Luk 14:14 and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Phi 3:10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

Phi 3:11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Hebrews 11:35 "Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection."

Joh 5:28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,  
 Joh 5:29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life ...

Rev 20:6 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 1000 years.

2. The above cited references show that there is a part of the Resurrection program which is called "the resurrection of the dust", "the out resurrection from the dead," "a better resurrection," "the resurrection of life," and "the first resurrection."

3. These phrases leave some dead unchanged and in a place of torment, where they await a future judgment and sentence to a permanent place of torment. They are judged according to their works.

NAME	DEBITS		CREDITS	BALANCE
	SINS	GOOD WORKS		
Unbeliever	1,877,215	.	None	Condemnation
BROWN, G. (Unbeliever)	1,275,324	.	None	Condemnation
Unbeliever	564,463	.	None	Condemnation
Unbeliever	2,385,469	.	None	Condemnation
Unbeliever	104,332	.	None	Condemnation
Unbeliever	1,432,873	.	None	Condemnation

(( BOOK OF WORKS ))

Rev 20:13 And ... they were judged every man according to their works.  
 Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.  
 Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

4. The "dead" referred to in Rev 20:12 can only be those who were left behind for judgment and eternal damnation.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.