

Resurrection of the dead



185) What is the fifth Foundation Stone?

A. The fifth foundation stone is the resurrection of the dead.

"instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment."

HEB 6:2 NIV

186) What is the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead?

A. It is the teaching that the end of our life in the flesh is not the end of our existence. We will rise to life after our physical death.

"Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. [14] We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him."

1THESS 4:13-14 NIV

"But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? [13] If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. [14] And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. [15] More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. [16] For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. [17] And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. [18] Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. [19] If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. [20] But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. [21] For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. [22] For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. [23] But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him."

1COR 15:12-23 NIV

187) Will only Christians be resurrected?

- A. No, both the saved and the unsaved will be resurrected. The Christians will be resurrected to eternal life. The unsaved will be resurrected to eternal damnation.

"Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice [29] and come out - those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned."

JOHN 5:28-29 NIV

"and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked."

ACT 24:15 NIV

"Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt."

DAN 12:2 NIV

188) What happens to Christians when they die?

- A. Their body dies and becomes the seed from which the spiritual body will spring forth.

"But someone may ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?' [36] How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. [37] When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ... [42] So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; [43] it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; [44] it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body."

1COR 15:35-37, 42-44 NIV

"When their spirit departs, they return to the ground; on that very day their plans come to nothing."

PSA 146:4 NIV

- B. Their spirit and soul go to "paradise" or "Abraham's Bosom" to be with the Lord and to await the resurrection of the righteous.

"when men are afraid of heights and of dangers in the streets; when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags himself along and desire no longer is stirred. Then man goes to his eternal home and mourners go about the streets. [6] Remember him - before the silver cord is severed, or the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, or the wheel broken at the well, [7] and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."

ECC 12:5-7 NIV

"Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. [7] We live by faith, not by sight. [8] We are confident, I

say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord."

2COR 5:6-8 NIV

"One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: 'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!' [40] But the other criminal rebuked him. 'Don't you fear God,' he said, 'since you are under the same sentence? [41] We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.' [42] Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' [43] Jesus answered him, 'I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.'

LUKE 23:39-43 NIV

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side (bosom, KJV). The rich man also died and was buried. [23] In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side."

LUKE 16:22-23 NIV

189) Will our soul be aware after death?

- A. Yes. The Bible teaches that the rich man was aware of his torment and Lazarus' comfort. Jesus "preached to the spirits in prison." In the book of Revelation, the souls under the altar cried out for justice. In each illustration, the soul of these "dead" men were aware of their surroundings.

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. [23] In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. [24] So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.' [25] "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. [26] And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'"

LUKE 16:22-26 NIV

"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, [19] through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison"

1PETER 3:18-19 NIV

"When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. [10] They called out in a loud voice, 'How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?'"

REV 6:9-10 NIV

190) What is Glorification?

- A. Glorification is when we receive a new, transformed or "glorified" body to replace our body of flesh.

1. There are two ways a Christian can receive his glorified body. He can physically die and receive it at the resurrection. If he remains alive until the Second Coming of Christ, He will receive it when he is caught up, or raptured, at the Lord's return.
- B. Physical healing is a firstfruit of the promise of glorification. Healing doesn't give us a new body or prevent our death, but it gives us a foretaste of a body free of sin, sickness, and pain.
- C. Glorification is salvation applied to man's body.
 1. Salvation is a process that begins when we are born again and ends when we either die or go to meet the Lord in the rapture of the saints on the last day.
 2. God brings salvation to the entire man. Our spirit man is justified. Our soul (mind, will, and emotions) is sanctified. Our physical body is glorified.

"And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified."

ROM 8:30 NIV

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed - [52] in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. [53] For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality."

1COR 15:51-53 NIV

"We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. [23] Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies."

ROM 8:22-23 NIV

191) What kind of body do we get at the resurrection?

- A. A spiritual body. A spiritual body is very similar to Christ's resurrected, or glorified, Body.

"But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, [21] who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body."

PHIL 3:20-21 NIV

"By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified."

JOHN 7:39 NIV

- B. Christ's resurrected body was not limited by space or time and yet people recognized Him (when He wanted them to). He could and did eat food, although He didn't need it for sustenance.

"Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. [14] They were talking with each other about everything that had

happened. [15] As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; [16] but they were kept from recognizing him. ... When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. [31] Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight."

LUKE 24:13-16, 30-31 NIV

"While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' [37] They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. [38] He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? [39] Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." [40] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. [41] And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" [42] They gave him a piece of broiled fish, [43] and he took it and ate it in their presence."

LUKE 24:36-43 NIV

"After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. [4] On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.'

ACTS 1:3-4 NIV

192) What happens to the unsaved when they die?

A. Their body dies and their spirit and soul go to Sheol or Hades to await their resurrection of condemnation.

1. "Hades" is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word "Sheol."

"Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."

MATT 10:28 NIV

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. [23] In hell (Hades), where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side."

LUKE 16:22-23 NIV

"The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. [14] Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. [15] If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

REV 20:13-15 NIV

"Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice [29] and come out - those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned."

JOHN 5:28-29 NIV

193) What changes took place when Christ died and raided Hades?

- A. Before Christ's crucifixion, all who died went to "Sheol." The word means "the grave" or "the place of the dead." The Jews understood there was a hope of resurrection from Sheol.

"Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure. [10] because you will not abandon me to the grave (Sheol), nor will you let your Holy One see decay."

PSA 16:9-10 NIV

"But God will redeem my life from the grave (Sheol); he will surely take me to himself. Selah"

PSA 49:15 NIV

"Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt."

DAN 12:2 NIV

- B. When Christ died, He visited the grave and "preached" or "announced" His victory to the dead. As in life, the righteous dead (Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, Isaiah, etc.) received the Messiah they had hoped for. The unrighteous did not. He then led the righteous dead to paradise leaving the unrighteous dead in Sheol or Hades.

"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, [19] through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison"

1PETER 3:18-19 NIV

"This is why it says: 'When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men.'"

EPH 4:8 NIV

"When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: 'Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. [18] I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.'"

REV 1:17-18 NIV

- C. At their resurrection, both the righteous and the unrighteous will face God.
1. The righteous will be promoted to heaven and their reward.
 2. The unrighteous will leave Hades to be cast into the eternal torment of the lake of fire.

"The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. [14] Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death."

REV 20:13-14 NIV

194) Is anyone in Hell today?

- A. No. The King James Version of the Bible translates the words "Sheol," "Hades," and "Gehenna" as "Hell." This leads to some confusion.
- B. Both "Sheol" and "Hades" refer to "the grave" or "the place of the dead." There are currently people awaiting judgement in Hades.
- C. The Greek word "Gehenna" means eternal punishment. It is a reference to the "Valley of Hinnom." It was in this valley, just outside the wall of Jerusalem, where children were once burned in sacrifice to the idol, Molech. It became a garbage dump where refuse, dead animals and even criminals were burned. All references to "hell fire" come from the translation of this word.
- D. There is no one currently suffering the eternal fire of "Gehenna" Hell. This will happen after the Great White Throne Judgement takes place.

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'"

MATT 25:41 NIV

195) Will we get a chance to repent or change our future after we die?

- A. No. We have our entire life to repent. Once we die our eternal destiny is set.

"Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,"

HEB 9:27 NIV

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom."

ECC 9:10 NIV

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near."

ISA 55:6 NIV