

RESURRECTION IN THE BIBLE

William P. Griffin, Ph.D.

April 4, 2021

Terms:

Resurrect[ed/ion]: 41 verses

Raise/rise/arise/awake [from the dead/from "sleep"]

Old Testament

The OT says little about resurrection. Even the state of the dead is quite unclear.

Sometimes it looks like people stop.

Sometimes it looks like a shadowy existence.

Sheol:

The place of all the dead.

The place of the wicked dead.

The "Pit".

Short-term (not eternal) resurrection:

Widow's son (1 Kgs 17:17-24).

Shunammite's son (2 Kgs 4:18-37).

Man tossed into Elisha's tomb (2 Kgs 8:5).

Eternal resurrection.

Isaiah? (26:19)

Of both the righteous and the wicked (Dan 12:2).

New Testament

Short-term:

Many unspecified (Matt 11:5; Luke 7:22).

Jesus told his disciples to raise the dead (Matt 10:8).

Jairus' daughter (Matt 9:24-26).

Lazarus (John 11).

Widow of Nain's son (Luke 7:11-17).

Tabitha (Acts 9:36-42).

Many dead saints around the time Jesus was raised from the dead (Matt 27:51-53).

Euticus who fell out of the window (Acts 20:9-10).

Note: "sleep" is sometimes a euphemism for death (Matt 27:52; John 11:11; 1 Cor 11:30; Acts 7:60; 1 Thess 4:14-15; 5:10; 2 Pet 3:4).

Eternal: Jesus

Predicted (Matt 16:21; 17:23; Mark 9:9; Luke 9:22; 13:32;).

It happened (Matt 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20; Acts 10:40; etc.).

Many, many people witnessed that He was alive (Matt 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20; Acts 1; 1 Cor 15:6).

Reiterated many times in the NT.

Eternal resurrection for people—through Jesus.

Jesus taught R, and that it would apply to the righteous and the wicked (John 5:21-29; Rev 20:4-6, 12-15).

Righteous: life (John 5:29)

Wicked: punishment (John 5:29)

Revelation: all get R'd (Rev 20:4-6,12-15).

Righteous: life

Wicked: 2nd death (punishment).

The hope of the church is R, not "I'll fly away, oh, glory" (1 Cor 15).

Without R, we are wasting our time as Christians (1 Cor 15).

To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (2 Cor 5:6-8)).

The dead in Christ rise first (1 Thess 4:16).

Jesus is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25).

Rewards in the resurrection (Luke 14:14)

We get new bodies (1 Cor 5:1-9)