

The Mystery of the Resurrection

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

A. 1Cor. 15:50-53

1. Paul wondered how some could say there is no resurrection of the dead
 - a. 1Cor. 15:12-13
2. He spoke of the resurrection of the dead, when and how it would happen, what the resurrected body will be
3. Then he called it a mystery, not that it was arcane or unintelligible, but that it was previously unknown, which is how the word mystery is used in scripture - Rom. 16:25-26; Eph. 3:3-4

I. THERE WILL BE A RESURRECTION

A. Jesus taught there will be a resurrection - John 5:28-29, 6:39-40, 44, 54

B. The apostles proclaimed a resurrection

1. Peter and John - Acts 4:1-2
2. Paul - Acts 23:6, 24:15
3. The inevitability of the resurrection - 1Cor. 15:12-23
4. The resurrection as a source of comfort - 1Thes. 4:16-18

II. THE POWER BEHIND THE RESURRECTION

A. Jesus attributed it to the power of God - Matt. 22:29

B. Paul said it was same power that raised Jesus from the dead

1. 1Cor. 6:14; 2Cor. 4:14
2. It may be difficult for us to comprehend how the dead can be raised, but it is not difficult for God to do.

III. THE RESURRECTION WILL BE UNIVERSAL

A. Jesus taught - John 5:28-29

B. Paul taught - Acts 24:15; 1Cor. 15:21-22

C. The resurrection was taught by Old Testament prophets

1. Job 19:25-26; Daniel 12:1-3

IV. THE TIME OF THE RESURRECTION

A. Jesus spoke often of raising the dead at the last day - John 6:39-40, 44, 54

B. Paul said it will be when the Lord has defeated all enemies, including death

1. 1Cor. 15:24-26

C. John makes it clear that no one will avoid it - Rev. 20:11-15

1. Everyone will rise on that day

V. OUR FORM IN THE RESURRECTION

A. Our body, changed and different - 1Cor. 15:35-41, 42-49

1. This change will occur instantly - 1Cor. 15:50-54

2. We eagerly wait for this transformation - Phil. 3:20-21

Conclusion: 1Cor. 15:55-58 - Are you ready for the resurrection?