

S. M. ... April 14, 1914 ...
Horne Park Apr. 15, 1990 AM "✓"
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JOY OF THE-RESURRECTION

I. Cor. 15:20

Intro.--We are in a world of enemies: 1. ✓ Soul--inside and outside--sin
2. ✓ Body--earth, sky, sea--death

From the pen of a missionary writer comes this beautiful story. A faithful missionary in distant Korea sat by the bedside of his dying wife. Fifteen years they had toiled together in the Gospel and now her summons had come. The heartbroken husband sat waiting for the end. She knew what the parting meant to him. She realized the keenness of his suffering. So, with her last thought, an unselfish one for him, she left him this last message of eternal comfort, "Do no grieve for me, my dear. You'll get me back." 7

The only way death can be destroyed is by the resurrection!

Did you ever watch mourners leave a grave after a commital service? Shuffling away from the flowers, banked grave, bereft women lean heavily on arms of loved ones, handkerchiefs dabbing at wet eyes.

Poet--

Oh; tis the pang severest
That human hearts can know,
To lay what we hold dearest
Thus, in dust below.

Some days ago a mother urged a little boy to go and touch the dead father and at the grave she kissed the lid of the casket.

As Mary and the women walked from the death, not a graveside--no funeral service, flowers, only thorns.

Instead of a lovely layout in a respectable casket hung a bloodstained body on a cross. The truth of the resurrection had not reached her heart as yet. Weepingly she walked toward home a symbol of despair for all who leave graves of loved ones. She had no hope of seeing him again.

✓ How final death seems!

7

We avoid the mention of it--we speak of terminally ill instead of dying. We refer to funeral parlors as slumber rooms. We change coffins to caskets, hearses to professional cars, cemeteries to memorial parks, bodies to loved ones. But no matter how we dim the lights and rouge the cheeks, it's still death.

Time and time again death will come to loved ones and friends, forcing us to make that trip to the cemetery to lay away one in the tomb.

A British archaeologist found the tomb of a child in Egypt. In the dark they lit a match to read the inscription which their guide translated, "Oh, my life, my love, my little one; how gladly I would have given myself to die instead of thee." They removed their hats.

Longfellow wrote, there is no flock, however watched and tended, but one dead lamb is there!

There is no fireside, howsoe'er defended

But has one vacant chair!

On this glorious Easter day amid music and flowers Russian Christians meeting *in their meekness and love* Christian hail him with the salutation *meeting 4000 years with Communion*, "Christ is Risen" and his friend answers, "He is risen indeed!"

I care not how costly the mosoleum or costly the family plot or sarcophagus as the one I saw in Israel. They found two coffins when clearing land for a house.--discolorated. All will be broken up by the resurrection. They must come out--

✓ Father and Mother they must come out.

✓ Husband and wife they must come out.

✓ Brother and sister they must come out.

✓ Our darling children they must come out.

The eyes that we close with such trembling fingers must open again in the radiance of that morning.

The arms we folded in dust must join ours in an embrace of reunion.

The voice that was hushed in our dwelling must be returned.

Oh, how long some of you seem to be waiting--waiting for the resurrection,

*Richard (Bar)
Pious cemetery
1800 Jews
shown
Can you give us
niche - see we
not her, not R. we
are Lord's family*

For your broken hearts today I offer the sure bandage of the resurrection.

"The trumpet shall sound and dead shall rise."

V. 20--Prophecy of our own resurrection. As Christ has risen so his people shall rise.

He is the first sheaf of the resurrection harvest--first fruits of them that slept.

Every Jew understood this--Feast of the Passover, more than one significance--commemorated deliverance from Egypt.

It took place at time of harvest festival. (Barley harvest) was due to begin. Lev. 23:10-11.

The law--bring sheaf of first fruits unto Priest.

Priest wave the sheaf before Jehovah, to be accepted for you.

The sheaf must come from common field--not from garden or orchard or specially prepared soil.

Barley cut and brought to temple. Thrashed with soft canes. Ground and flour offered to God.

First fruits significant--not until this was done could the new barley be brought and sold in shops.

First Fruits a sign of the harvest to come.

Resurrection of Jesus a sign of the resurrection of all believers which was to come. The new harvest could not be used until First Fruits offered.

The new harvest of life could not come until Jesus had been raised from the dead.

The names of the great conquerors of the world--Alexander, Caesar, Philip, Napoleon

Can not forget the Black horse of Death--he carries a black flag, he digs trenches and fills them carcasses of nations.

He is a monarch--a conqueror.

His place is a sepulchre--his fountains the falling trars of the world.

Blessed be God--in the light of Easter morning I see the prophecy that his sceptre shall be broken.

The hour is coming when all who are in their graves shall come forth.

Christ risen, we shall rise. Jesus the first fruits of them that slept.

There are many mysteries about the doctrine of the resurrection.

V. 35—"But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?

If the bodies of the dead are to be raised, how is this, and how is that? And you ask a thousand questions, there are some things you believe but cannot explain.

Paul is talking about things no one really knows all the answers to. He is trying to express the inexpressible and describe the indescribable.

He takes Analogy of a seed. The seed is put in the ground and dies. In due time it rises again in a very different body of its own from which it was sown. Putting down one kind of flower seed, it comes up of this color. Plant another seed and another color. Flower white--flower yellow--crimson.

Why the difference when the seeds look to be very much alike?

Explain these things--that wait on the finger.

Why the difference the oak leaf and leaf of hickory and a rose leaf.

There are a thousand questions about every day life you cannot answer!

There is great strength in this passage--"All who are in their graves shall come forth."

Suppose a returned missionary dies in Chesapeake. When in China his foot was amputated, in England his arm was amputated and he is buried in Riverside, in the resurrection will the foot come from China, will the arm come from England, and will different parts of the body be reconstructed in the resurrection? How is that possible?

The human body changes every seven years and by seventy years of age a man has had ten bodies, in the resurrection which will come up?

"A man will die and his body crumble into the dust and distributed in so many directions, how shall it be gathered up?"

"All who are in their graves shall come forth."

V. 52--Great sound to take place at the resurrection. Bible says "For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised."

It will be very penetrating. In the mausoleum where silence has reigned a thousand years that voice must penetrate.

Millions of spirits will come through the gates of eternity and they will come to the tombs of the earth and they will cry: "Give us back our bodies; we gave them to death in corruption, surrender them now in incorruption."

Hundreds of bodies will hover over the battle fields of Gettysburg, hundreds will come to Riverside, Forest Lawn, Rose Wood, for there the bodies are buried, waiting for the reunion of body and soul.

Over the sea and waters of the rivers and mountains spirits will be hovering waiting for the reunion of body and soul. On the prairie, the travelers that died in the snow, crash victims, and the Pyramids of Egypt.

Who can sketch the scene? The noise of the grinding wheels of a procession into the cemetery will cease.

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, as the archangel's trumpet comes pealing, rolling, crashing across mountain and sea, the earth will tremble and the graves of the dead will heave like the waves of the sea and they will stalk forth and the drowned will come up above the billows, and all the sea and land will become one moving mass of life--all faces, all ages, all conditions will gaze in one direction--the throne of resurrection.

"All who are in their graves will come forth." Prefigured on this Easter morning by Christ, the first fruits of them that slept. Christ rising, a promise and prophecy of the rising of all his people.

What about the resurrected body? There are mysteries about that, but some things are sure and beyond guess work.

1. It will be a Glorious body.

The body we have now is a mere skeleton of what it would have been if sin had not marred and defaced it.

Take a statue made by artist with chisel--stand it out in storms and in a few years its beauty is gone.

Human body is bruised and damaged by the storms of the years--but in resurrection the body will be adorned and beautified according to the original model.

There you will see the perfect eye no more fear stains.

You will see the perfect hand, after the knots, at the end of toil have been removed.

Burdens will be gone from the shoulders.

In this world the most impressive thing is the human face, but the face that is veiled with the griefs of many years--in resurrection the veil will be taken away and the noon day sun will seem dull and dim compared with that glorious countenance.

Talking, old lady, ran boarding home for years. Face wrinkled, shoulders humped over, hands knotty. "I said one thing you know--how cook--children--you had a talent--Her face beamed like sunshine. My calling--I thought when that news everlasting day comes and she receives that glorious resurrected body!"

2. It will be an immortal body.

These bodies waste away--as soon as we are born and begin to live, we begin to die.

We fed our bodies--sickness and death are all the time trying to get their prey. Or push us into the grave.

In the resurrection we get a body immortal. No malaria, no rheumatic pains, no fluttering of the heart, so shortness of breath, no ambulance, no hospital, no invalid's chair, no spectacles to improve the vision--immortal health.

You who have aches and pains indiscirbalethis morning, you who are never well--let me tell you of the resurrected body, free from all disease.

3. It will be a powerful body.

We walk eight or ten miles and we are fatigued--we lift a few hundred pounds and we are exhausted--unarmed we can not handle a wild beast--we work 10 or 12 hours and we are tired.

But in the resurrected body we will never get tired--a glorious thought.

You will be busy in heaven--victories to be celebrated--great songs to be learned and sung--you will sit under the tree of life and talk with old comrades.

Sometimes in this world we feel like we would like to have such a body as that.

There is so much work to be done for Christ. There are so many tears to be wiped away. There are so many burdens to lift, we feel sometimes we would like to toil on without stopping to sleep, or take recreation or rest, or even take food. But we all get tired.

It is characteristic of the human body--we get tired. Glorious thought after awhile we will get a body that will never get weary.

The righteous shall rise with a glorious body.

"I come to the garden alone,

While the dew is still on the roses,

And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,

The Son of God discloses.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice

Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,

And the melody that he gave to me,

Within my heart is ringing."

(Old Navajo Chief) heard gospel from a missionary. Refused to accept--"The Jesus road is good but I have followed the Old Indian road all my life and I will follow it to the end."

Months later in shadow of death, he asked the missionary, "Can I turn to the Jesus road now? My road stops here. I have no path through the valley of death."

Every man wants the Jesus path that leads through the eastern gate.

It is tragic--burials in parts of world. Chinese bodies thrown in field for hogs and dogs to eat. Hindus burn the dead, Parsi take bodies to roof of temple for vultures to eat, Africa a man may throw the body of his wife and child into a river. without hope--dispair!

I heard a story of father and son who had been shipwrecked at sea. They had climbed onto the rigging. The father held on, but the son was washed by the waves and lost his hold and was dashed down. The father thought he had gone hopelessly under the wave.

The next day the father was rescued from the rigging in an exhausted and unconscious state.

They placed him on a bed in a fishermans hut. Hours later he awoke and in heartbroken agony he remembered his son!

As he turned his head, he saw his boy resting on the same bed, lying beside him. His heart leaped for joy.

What a glorious thing it will be. One by one we are swept away by death but one day we wake up at LAST in the resurrection to find our loved ones beside us!

Coming up from the same plot in the graveyard--in the same morning light--father and son alive forever--all the loved ones alive forever--nevermore to weep--nevermore to part or die.

Dr. Bassett -
 wife - Bap. girl -
 kind & B. not love her under the water -
 story - I know men send not leave
 beloved underneath Count - send -