



# FIRST BAPTIST of Hayden

**What Happened because of the Resurrection**  
**04/12/2023**



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## **Introduction:**

Last week, we looked at the events leading up to the death of Jesus on the cross. That event left his disciples in total despair. Peter has denied that he knows him, Judas has committed suicide, and the others have scattered and are hiding in fear of their lives. Whatever the disciples were expecting Jesus to do, they now realize that their aspirations have been dashed – the promise of a kingdom has been dashed and crushed. As far as his closest friends and followers know, their dreams are now over, and they need to figure out what happens next.

Some of them go back to doing what they did before, unsure of what needs to happen. So, like all of us, they went back to the familiar. No one has seen Thomas, apparently. He has left the entire group and has not reconnected in any way. It is during this week, that Jesus will appear to his followers on several occasions, offering reassurance that all is not lost. Over time, they come to realize that he had to die, and that his physical resurrection was a necessity if an eternal kingdom was to become reality.

Just like the disciples, we misunderstand what is meant by that phrase, ‘eternal kingdom.’ So, I want to focus our attention upon the biblical concept of eternity and an eternal kingdom.

We are given three specific results of the resurrection regarding eternity.

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**Message:****1. The Temporary dominion of Death is now broken.**

Death was never a part of the natural order of God's creation. Yet, sin brought death to all humanity and our natures were changed from holy to sinner. We fail in the single purpose to which God created all of creation – His glory!

The change in our basic nature brought about the condition of death. However, that condition was temporary – at least as far as God is concerned. According to the scripture, God had already planned to remedy our corrupted condition through his plan for our salvation and the death and resurrection of Jesus.

That remedy was not done for our sake. Like all of creation, our redemption, our restoration to a relationship with God is and always shall be for his glory alone.

Psalm 19:1 (ESV): 1 *The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.*

Numbers 14:21 (ESV): 21 *But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord,*

Habakkuk 2:13–14 (ESV): 13 *Behold, is it not from the Lord of hosts that peoples labor merely for fire, and nations weary themselves for nothing?* 14 *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*

If we understand sin as God sees it, we begin to understand that sin is a failure on our part to glorify God. Anytime that we act against God's Word or will, we are failing to glorify him.

Anytime that we live for him, act according to his Word and will, we are bringing glory to him. That is our eternal destiny and that is what we lost in the Garden of Eden. As a result, we faced death as the just penalty for our failure.

But God would not leave us in our fallen failure. Before we were ever created, and before the first sin was committed, God had already created the remedy that would also glorify him.

Acts 2:23–24 (ESV): 23 *this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.* 24 *God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.*

1 Peter 1:18–21 (ESV): 18 *knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold*

19 *but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. 20 He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you 21 who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.*

So, we can say with full confidence, the condition of death and sin were temporary, but God's glory is eternal.

## **2. Co-Eternal Life can be claimed by any who believe.**

Romans 6:5–11 (ESV): *5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

We are inheritors of the life that is in Christ, and is Christ. That does not mean that we get something called life which is separate from him. We get him who is life, and when we have Christ dwelling in us, we have the eternal life that is in him.

Eternal life is not a gift from God; it is ‘*The gift of God.*’ Jesus is the gift, and what he brings into us at salvation is his life. By God’s sovereign grace and mercy, we have the life that is in Christ, living in us, because he dwells in us by the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is because of God’s Spirit dwelling in us that we now have the nature of eternal life.

The weakest saint living can manifest the resurrection power of God by the indwelling presence of God’s Spirit. While you and I benefit from God’s grace, it is not for our benefit that it is provided – it is for his glory and praise.

In our contemporary society, we seem to get this mixed up. We tend to see salvation as something for us. I go looking for a church that “ministers to me.” I want teaching that “feeds me.” What we should be looking for is a church that makes God’s glory its main priority; its teaching is centered upon God’s glory. The resurrection of Jesus should be central to that church’s message and mission – because his resurrection was the manifestation of God’s glory within history!

### **3. We find that eternity is not a time but rather a quality and character of life.**

We are wrong when we think of eternity as some part of time. Time was created when God created the cosmos. It is difficult not to think of eternity as an extension of time. But we are called into a higher plane of thinking.

That means that instead of thinking of eternity as a period of time, we should rather think of it as a quality of essence or existence. Eternal life was lived by Jesus while he was here, and it is what he is living while he is in glory. It is with that same quality of *eternal life* to which God has delivered us into which causes us to live for his glory.

When you and I are living according to the Word and the will of God, we are living eternal life in the here and now.

When we find it difficult to get right with God and live as he has determined we should, we are living as if his life has had no effect on us; we are living as if we have no eternal life within us. This is the life of Jesus, and it is the life we have been given, and it is the life we live as faith followers of Christ. The life of Christ is a life lived for God and his glory, and the eternal life that is promised is manifested by God's glory.

This will not happen all at once. At salvation, we are given life through the presence of the Holy Spirit. As we live, we become more like Christ because God shapes us and changes us to be like his Son. As we become more like Jesus, we find that our focus of life changes from being self-centered to God focused and God's glory.

Peter would tell the church of his day, "*Work out your salvation with fear and trembling.*" Make sure you are saved and make sure you are living like you are saved.



As we grow in Christ, we must continue to let go of this old life that was crucified with Christ. The more of this life we no longer possess, the more his life is seen in us. Then, the grand and glorious full life of Christ will invade us, fill us, and glorify his Father through us.

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### **Conclusion:**

Galatians 2:20 (ESV): *20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

Whose life are you living?