

Question Sheet #5

1. How many resurrections are there? List the order of the various resurrections.
 - a. Christ's resurrection
 - b. Resurrection of the saints at the rapture (1 Thess. 4)
 - c. "first resurrection" of OT and tribulation saints (Rev. 20:5)
 - d. The resurrection unto condemnation (Rev. 20:13)

2. 1 Corinthians 15:38-46: explain the resurrection body of believers. Explain what might be meant by:

A substantial body: Our body after the resurrection (rapture) will be one of true substance similar to that of Christ's after His resurrection. People will be able to touch and feel us, we will be able to eat, etc.

An immortal body: Our body after the resurrection (rapture) will be truly immortal it will not be subject to sickness, decay or death as our bodies are now.

A glorious body: Although there seems to be evidence that we will be recognizable in our resurrected bodies as Christ was, there will at the same time be something gloriously different.

A powerful body: If we relate our resurrected bodies Christ's resurrected body then He was able to walk through walls while at the same time having a body of substance, therefore our resurrected bodies may provide us with power and abilities that we do not have now.

A spiritual body: Although our resurrected bodies will be physical and substantial they will be spiritual in the sense of being completely sanctified.

3. Does the believer have an "intermediate state" body? Explain.

The believer does not have an "intermediate state" body. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. At death the believer is immediately in the presence of God in a spiritual state until the rapture when his/her body will be resurrected and glorified.

Even those who die during the Tribulation are referred to by John in Rev. as souls until the "first resurrection" in Rev. 20.

4. How does the rapture differ from the second coming of Christ?

As revealed in 1 Thess. 4:17 Christ will not actually return to Earth at the rapture but saints both dead and alive will meet Him in the clouds, prior to the Tribulation.

However, according the Rev. 19 Christ will return to Earth at His second coming at the end of the Tribulation to destroy the wicked and rule on Earth.¹

5. 1 Corinthians 15:52: What is meant by the “last trumpet”? Is this the trumpet of 1 Thess. 4? Midtribulationists argue that these are related to the (last, seventh) trumpet of Rev. 11. Defend your pretribulationist response to the midtrib argument.

The trumpets in 1 Cor. 15 and 1 Thess. 4 are referring to the trumpet of God that will sound at the rapture of the church. No where in these passages is this trumpet referred to as the “last trumpet”

The last or seventh trumpet of Rev. 11 is not accompanied by any reference to a resurrection as the trumpet of 1 Cor. 15 and 1 Thess. 4.²

¹ Eschatology Syllabus Spring 2003

² Wood, Leon. *The Bible and Future Events*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1973.