

IV

Resurrection

1. The Significance of Resurrection

The meaning of resurrection is to rise from the dead, and to understand this we must what death means. Before the fall God said to Adam and Eve "for in the day that you eat of it you shall die". What does this death mean? One who is ignorant of the Principle of Creation would think the fall of man resulted in his physical death and burial. God so created man that his physical body would return to dust at the end of his earthly life and his spiritual man would return to the invisible spiritual world. No physical life was created for eternity and if the life of animals or vegetables is not eternal how can man's flesh be eternal. This is against the Principle of Creation. If man's physical body could be eternal on the earth the invisible world of spiritual life would be unnecessary. A caterpillar in metamorphosis chose

to die because it does not know that after death there is a new world where it will live as a butterfly drawing nectar from lovely flowers as it wishes. One becomes attached to the physical life because he does not know the infinite world of spiritual life and freedom. To die does not mean physical death but to fall into a circle dominated by Satan, not returning beauty to God nor receiving love from God. (Ref. The Principle of Creation)

Therefore to be raised from the dead means all the processes of restoring man's original value, returning beauty to God and receiving God's love under God's domination. There was no outward change in Adam and Eve after their fall. Likewise there will be no outward change after resurrection. The difference is that of being removed from the satanic world into the world of intrinsic good of the original creation. The resurrected one has nothing to do with sin. There was no difference between Jesus the perfect man and his brothers and they could not recognize Him. When the providence of restoration is fulfilled man's resurrection will be completed. Resurrection is also the work of re-creation and it must pass through the three stages according to the principle of creation. When man is made perfect and becomes a Luminous Being during his earthly life a perfect spiritual man comes into being in the invisible heavenly world. When the providence of resurrection is completed on earth the resurrection of imperfect spiritual men will be accomplished. Then how is the resurrection of the earthly saints accomplished?

2. The Resurrection of the Earthly Saints

(a). The Providential Age for the Resurrection to Regeneration Stage

For two thousand years after Adam the foundation of the providence of restoration was laid, and this was also the foundation for the work of resurrection. So the providence of resurrection commenced with Abraham. The next two thousand years from Abraham to Jesus was the age of God's providence to raise man to the stage of Regeneration. In this age a man was justified by observing the law, and grew to the highest degree of the Spirit of Form in which spiritual men waited for the coming of the Messiah.

(b). The Age for the Resurrection to Growth Stage

By the redemption of Jesus Christ the foundation of spiritual salvation was laid. The New Testament Age is the providential age for the resurrection to Growth Stage. Believing in the risen Christ, namely through the ministry of the resurrection to Growth stage man is enabled to form the spirit of life on earth. Therefore the saints who have believed in Christ completed the Spirit of Life and now remain in Paradise and wait for the Second Advent of Jesus. Paradise is a place where the spiritual men in the stage of the Spirit of Life remain. The end of the world means the consummation of the New Testament Age. "In the last days I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." (Acts 2:17) This is because men and women in the last days will be raised to the standard of Adam

before the fall and will communicate with God and the world of spirits.

When any man grows to this stage he will receive the revelation that he is the Lord. This is an experience which is common to all. After creation God gave Adam the qualification of dominion over all the creatures. (Gen. 1:27) The words "You are the Lord" simply mean that he has attained to a position of lordship, but this does not mean that he is the Lord of Second Advent. There is another reason why such a revelation is given. At the last day those who have reached the highest spiritual level have the mission to testify to the Lord of Second Advent as John the Baptist did at the time of the first advent. There are three spheres of testimony, the spheres of those who testify in the Regeneration, Growth, and perfection stages. They have the mission of testimony in their own field as the representatives or forerunners of the Lord of Second Advent. For this they receive such revelation that they have attained lordship. Therefore if one does not know this principle he acts as if he were the Lord of Second Advent and will be withered up. There are many who had reached this high spiritual level and became withered because they did not know this principle. This is the reason why so many antichrists appear in the last days. Those who have attained this stage are in the position from which they could easily fall again. Therefore with divine wisdom they must pass that stage in which Adam and Eve failed.

Christians who aim at other something and read the same Bible interpret it in different ways and thus make divisions in the Church. The twelve

pearl gates of heaven appear differently to these saints who run toward them from different directions East, West, South, and North. When they enter into the gates they will find that they have come to one place. This is because everyone's position, characteristics, spiritual degrees, understanding, and environment are not all the same. The purpose of God's providence with each person is to lead him to the gate as quickly as possible and He treats each one in the way that is best for him. The saints of the last day have a vertical relationship with God but they do not have a horizontal relationship with other saints. This is the reason why they regard one another as heretics or satanic, and disagree even though they are striving for the same goal.

We could compare God's providence of six thousand years to the making of a watch. Each saint or group is making part of the watch and until they accomplish it God cares for each treating him as if he alone receives such an important revelation and so he regards himself as the only one in the world. God really treats him that way because it is true that he is number one in his own field. Such people would reject one another because there is no horizontal relationship with them. One must be very humble when he receives such a revelation, otherwise he will become the prey of satan. When the Lord comes again He will put all the parts together and finalize the work and make a complete watch. Those who have been working for any part will see their work was a part of the whole in God's purpose. When He comes with a complete truth those who have prepared parts must bring their parts and present them humbly to the Lord so that their

works may be co-ordinated by Him and each receive their reward according to their merits. In that complete truth the Christians in separate denominations and those who communicate with the world of spirits will find a common interest in this truth.

(c). The Age for the Resurrection to Perfection Stage

By His death on the cross Jesus accomplished the providence of spiritual salvation and the dispensation for the resurrection to Perfection stage remains to be accomplished at the Second Advent. The Christians at the last day who stand on the foundation of the resurrection of Growth which was laid for two thousand years after Jesus death, will attain to the Luminous Being on earth by believing in the Lord of Advent who will fulfill God's providence of restoration in spirit and body. Since the fall of Adam no one has attained to the Luminous Being and consequently the Kingdom of God in heaven is still empty.

3. The First Resurrection

The greatest hope of Christians is to participate in the first resurrection. Those who participate in the first resurrection are those who attain to the Luminous Being and thus fulfill the purpose of creation for the first time in history. The perfection of this resurrection will be accomplished by the Lord of Second Advent. "Then I looked, and lo, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand who had his name and his Father's name written on their

foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; the voice I heard was like the sound of harpers playing on their harps, and they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are chaste; it is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes; these have been redeemed from mankind as first fruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are spotless." (Rev. 14:1-5) The number one hundred and forty-four thousand is a multiple of twelve (12), thus, $3 \times 4 \times 12 = 144$. This is the limited number of perfection and "the number of the sealed, a hundred and forty-four thousand sealed, out of every tribe of the sons of Israel" (Rev. 7:4) signifies Christians who are the spiritual Israel who succeeded the faith of Abraham. There are twelve types of Christians in the spiritual Israel. Jacob had twelve sons, Moses had twelve tribes, there were twelve minor prophets in the Southern and Northern Kingdoms, and Jesus had twelve disciples. So the Lord of Second Advent must accomplish his ministry on this foundation of Jesus' course. "The number of the sealed, a hundred and forty-four thousand sealed" are those who will participate in the first resurrection. They will be the most blessed ones and live with the Lord of Second Advent, the King of kings forever being His royal family and nobility.

4. The Resurrection of the Spiritual Men

The spiritual man grows within the physical body. The spiritual men in the world of spirits who have not accomplished the perfect resurrection to the Luminous Being during their earthly life must descend to the earth at the time of Second Advent and cooperate with men on earth to complete through them what they could not accomplish. "It

was of these also that Enoch in the seventh generation from Adam prophesied, saying "Behold, the Lord came with his holy myriads". (Jude 14) At the last day all the saints in the world of spirits will come again with Jesus and they must accomplish their own resurrection. The spiritual men in the stage of the spirit of Form had descended when Jesus was on earth and cooperated with the saints who accomplished the Spirit of Life by believing in Jesus and thus they entered into Paradise with them.

"And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many." (Math. 27:51-)

If the prophets and saints of the Old Testament age had risen from the tombs in flesh their record should have been left, and they would not have been silent but have testified of Jesus, and if they had done this the Jews would have believed in Jesus because of it. If this were so the early

Christians would not have been persecuted by the Jews. This Scriptural passage is the information that the saints and prophets of the past had descended upon the saints on earth to help them. The stage of the Spirit of Form appears as a tomb if one looks at it from the stage of the Spirit of Life. These spiritual men in the stage of the Spirit of Form were raised to the stage of the Spirit of Life. This was their resurrection, and only those whose spiritual eyes were open could see this.

Likewise the spiritual men in Paradise who are in the stage of the Spirit of Life must descend upon the saints on earth who will attain their resurrection to the stage of Luminous Being through the ministry of the Second Advent. By doing this the spiritual saints in Paradise will attain the resurrection to the stage of Luminous Being and enter into heaven. Paradise appears as a tomb if one looks at it from the Kingdom of God in heaven.

Today many people speak tongues, prophesy, impart the Holy Fire, and perform miracles, and most of these are cooperating ministries with the spiritual men in Paradise. At the last day the ministry of the Holy Spirit will be accomplished and the saints in the world of spirits and on earth will work together to complete the purpose of restoration. Therefore the saints in both worlds communicate with each other frequently these days and confer about things to happen in the future. "And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect."

(Heb. 11:39,40.) According to this verses it is evident that those who are in the world of spirits cannot be made perfect without the saints on earth. "Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (Math. 18:18) Whatever we bind on earth must be loosed on earth. The fall of man took place on earth and his perfect resurrection must be accomplished on the earth. Hence the spiritual men in the invisible world are now earnestly seeking for saints on earth with whom they may cooperate. The second coming of Elijah illustrates this point. "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come." (Math. 11:14) Elijah descended upon John the Baptist to accomplish his mission through him and cooperating with him.

5. The Transmigration of the Soul as taught by Buddihsn

To accomplish the Divine Providence of the whole restoration God calls individuals and commits to each of them a mission to fit him, and let similar individuals succeed to the same type of mission over a long period of history. Gradually He lets them accomplish their mission. The divided mission is also extended in its scope from a personal to a national type, and from a national to a universal type. Those who communicate with the world of spirits often receive a particular name such as 'Paul' or 'Peter'. This is because St. Paul or St. Peter descended upon them and they are called to accomplish the same type

of mission as that of Paul or Peter with their co-operation. The theory of the transmigration of soul as taught in Buddhism is merely the explanation of this phenomena seen in the result of the descent of spiritual men from the invisible world. They interpret this as if the person had been St. Paul or St. Peter now transmigrated in an other body.

The saints of the last day have a universal mission in its scope and they must realize that there have been many persons who had the same type of mission in the past. From the standpoint of the mission they are the second coming of the spiritual men who had a mission of the same type. Accordingly they cooperate with the saints on earth when such a saint fails to carry out his mission not only is he himself ruined but the hope of the spiritual men who have been depending upon him fails, and so much of God's providence of the whole restoration is delayed. Therefore the Christians and other saints at the last day all bear the most significant historic responsibility and accordingly they can be either the most blessed or they would come under greater judgment and leave great grief and bitter disappointment to God forever.

6. The Descent of all Kinds of Evil Spirits

As the history of restoration works backward towards the ideal world of creation, men on earth will make more spiritual growth as time moves on. On the whole more light will be cast upon the subject of the restoration of man's original nature of creation. All mankind should receive the benefit of the new dispensation age and so individuals are able to advance spiritually without

making special efforts as in the past. This is true in the scientific world, as time moves on scientists benefit by reading the scientific books of the past. As times move on the people on earth benefit because they stand on the spiritual foundation of the prophets, disciples, and other saints in the past. Even though some of those past saints who lived hundreds of years ago had the same spiritual soil as those in the present day, the latter can benefit by advancing to a higher stage than the former because of the difference of the age of God's dispensation.

For this reason all the saints in Paradise and all kinds of wandering spirits who are under satanic dominance desire to benefit by the new age through the people on earth. It is impossible for any one to communicate with the saints in Paradise unless his standard of faith becomes as high as theirs. But it is easy to communicate with these wandering spirits. This is the reason why insanity increases in the last days. Those whose spiritual standard is high can cast out these demons from them by prayers even as Jesus did it by His word of authority. Demons can also be driven out by removing the physical or mental conditions upon which satan may encroach. The communication with the world of spirits is also possible for other religious people. For instance Buddhists are trained in their own religion to communicate with the spirits of their departed saints who believed in Buddhism during their earthly life.

7. The Unification of Religions by means
of the Descent of the Saints from
the Spiritual world

God used the chosen nation to lay the foundation of faith and sent John the Baptist to prepare for the coming of Messiah. Likewise God's saints lay the foundation of faith and testify like John to prepare for the New Age. Through their ministries God gathers His chosen saints together in unity to one place. The spiritual men in Paradise will descend to the earth and command them with whom they communicate where to go to meet the Lord of Second Advent. At the last day a place will be appointed where the saints whose spiritual standard is highest will gather together at the direction of the spiritual men in Paradise. When the disciples asked Jesus "'Where, Lord?' He said to them, 'Where the body is, there the eagles will be gathered together'." (Luke 17:36,37) The Lord will appear where there is spiritual life. That will be the place where the most devout Christians and saints who communicate with the saints in Paradise gather together. The spiritual men must cooperate with the earthly saints commanding them to gather together to one place, and they will do this through direct revelation from God. In this way the unity and unification of denominations of Christianity is quite possible and will be realized soon.

All other religions are provided by the providence of God that every one may be saved. Therefore every religion has a certain degree of truth from God and in this sense other religions are

also God's revelation to a certain people at certain times. These religions served to keep people from doing evil and lead the conscientious people to good. God expanded the foundation of conscientiousness in the Oriental peoples establishing humanity and morality through the religions of Buddhism and Confucianism. Later on this foundation they received the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Mankind will never attain peace until Christians put away their exclusive feeling toward other religions. The saints of those religions who sought truth and devoted to good throughout their lives cannot and did not go to Hell. These have their own societies in the lower part of Paradise but their degree of glory and light is not as great as that of Jesus and His disciples. These saints in other religious spheres in the invisible world must go through the processes of resurrection to attain to their Luminous Being. They have a responsibility to descend and instruct their followers where to go to meet the Lord of Advent. Compared with other religions Christians are the most prepared to participate in the blessing of the last day, because Christianity has been the direct revelation from God through last two thousand years.

In a word all spiritual men in the invisible world are destined to descend upon and cooperate with the earthly saints to gather them together into one place. In this manner unity and unification of all religions will be attained as a necessary process of history. This unification of religions will lead the unification of all mankind, and the unification of all mankind will

then lead to the unification of heaven and earth
This will be the time when the Garden of Eden
will be restored and God's ideal of creation is
realized on earth. God has been working for
six thousand years to see this one day to fruition.