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Resurrection and the Glorified Body

The greatest treasure of all eternity has been given to anyone who will humble themselves and receive it. The gift of salvation has come directly from God as He has freely provided for mankind to receive a new nature of righteousness. No other religion except true Christianity has this gift in its beliefs. Every other religion has a pathway to their god through doing good works to earn their salvation, whereas for us believers in Christ, salvation is only through receiving a gift from God. There is only one way into God's family, and it is to be born into it as it reads in John 3:5-7, *"Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 'That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 'Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"*

Everything that Jesus went through on this earth was necessary. Adam, the original man of God's creation, legally and willingly stepped into sin; therefore, the final Adam also had to willingly go to that place of darkness so that He could be resurrected from that place. It was essential that Jesus die on the cross as the perfect and innocent Lamb of God. In His death, He needed to go to a place of sin and death so that He could find us. He had to become like we were so that as He was raised into life, we could follow after. It reads in 2 Corinthians 5:21, *"For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."* The cross was the only way for Jesus to make His Father become our Father. Adam deposited the human race into the place of darkness, and that is where Jesus had to go so that He could lead us out into the light. At our salvation from darkness, He even gave us the faith to receive the new nature of light based on the works of Jesus and not one of our own.

However, another part of salvation that is equally as important to Jesus dying on the cross for us is His resurrection from death. It says in 1 Corinthians 15:17-18, *"And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished."* The message of resurrection is as important as the message of the cross because it proves that we, too, have been lifted from death into life.

Knowing that our salvation needed Jesus to be resurrected from the dead is crucial to understanding who you are right now. Only in Christianity will you find an empty tomb as Jesus has risen from the dead. This was not just to show God's power, but it had to happen this way. You'll find Mohammad in his grave, as you will also find Buddha, Joseph Smith, and every leader of every other religion.

This is why a person must accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, so they can be raised from their death as He was. It says in Romans 6:4-5, *"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,"*. Praise God

for evermore; we followed the path of resurrection that Jesus created in His obedience to the Father.

For many years I spoke all the correct words in defining Christianity. I said I was saved and called God my Father, but it wasn't until I could see the true miracle of how He birthed me that my real relationship began to flourish. The moment I asked Jesus into my heart was also the moment that He raised me from death and birthed me into His family. Many people are waiting until heaven to be resurrected, but as believers, we are already raised from the dead.

We didn't just sign up for a church, and we didn't just change our lifestyle. Absolutely not! We were birthed brand new by God, and He actually became our Father. An actual quickening took place in our spiritual being. Many believers will live their time on earth without truly realizing who God has made them. They are waiting for heaven instead of walking into who He has already made them.

Jesus being raised from the dead is so important for who we are in Christ. Jesus coming out of hell was when He was resurrected from the dead, but coming out of the tomb was when His body was glorified. Those are two separate experiences that God's children will also experience. It was the only way for us to trust in this miracle called salvation. It tells us that the moment you were born again, in that exact moment, you were resurrected from death to life exactly as Jesus was. Then just like Jesus, we will also receive our glorified body at the sound of the trumpet.

It proves we can now live in holiness and hope because we have already been raised out of that darkness. Your battles are with this old body, not because you are still in darkness. The life of God has come entirely to you through the new nature into the inner man, which means you have already been raised from the dead. Praise God for His incredible love for us.