



SERIES: October “Back to the Future”

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Scripture: Revelation 20:5-6; 1 Corinthians

TITLE: Our Resurrection

The idea of the dead coming back to life has fascinated people for thousands of years. The Egyptians were convinced of it. They would bury certain members with jewels, gold, and the finest of goods to help the dead when they came back to life.

Today, we don't buy into that, but we are intrigued by the idea. That's why shows like *The Walking Dead* and movies like *Dawn of the Dead* are so popular. But, man, I sure don't want to come back if I'm going to be a zombie.

So is there a resurrection? If so, when? What will it be like?

Let's turn back to Revelation 20:5-6 (CSB) for the answers.

“The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.”

There are two resurrections we should know about: the first and the second. The first is the resurrection of the saints. Those who are found in Christ will be resurrected to a glorious future.

Paul would write in 1 Corinthians 15:

“Listen, I am telling you a mystery: We will not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed. For this corruptible body must be clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body must be clothed with immortality. When this corruptible body is clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body is clothed with immortality” (1 Cor. 15:51-54a).

For the Christian, it's an eternity in a glorified body. It's a blessed and holy future! We will be priests of God and of Christ! We will reign with Him first for a thousand years and then for eternity.

But for those who reject Christ's offer of salvation, they too will experience a resurrection. It's the second resurrection at the end of the Millennium. But it's not glorification. It's not a blessed future. It's judgment and then damnation with no hope or desire of escape.

So we have a choice to make: draw near to Christ and expect a glorious future or stay apart from the Savior and expect an eternity of damnation.

So here's my challenge for you today: If you're a Christian, you are already part of a royal priesthood called to worship God, serve the church, and reach the lost. So live out your priesthood today as you long for that day where you get your resurrected and glorified body.

If you're here today and you have not turned from your sin and turned to God, do so today. Eternity in hell is not a party or rock concert with the prince of darkness. It's torment, and it's forever. There are no do-overs. So turn to Christ today.

We have two options for our future: a glorious one that has no sting of death and a nightmare that has no end.

It's my prayer you choose Christ. When you do, you will win today and eternity.