

# The Resurrection of the Dead - 1

## *In the Old Testament - Job, 1 Samuel & the Psalms*

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### Hebrews 5:12 to 6:3

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food for everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, **of resurrection of the dead**, and **of eternal judgment**. And this we will do if God permits.

Clarification: we are not concerned in this study with raising the dead in this life and body, who are destined to die again. These studies will concentrate on when the dead are raised in a new eternal body.

Whilst these matters are classed in the Scriptures as “elementary principles of Christ” they have been neglected in the modern Western churches. This is why I believe it is helpful for us to look at them.

*Matt. 22:23, Mark 12:18 & Luke 20:27*

“Then some of the Sadducees, who deny that there is a resurrection, came to Him...”

This is a look at Old Testament passages in chronological order with a focus on resurrection, it should be remembered that overall the Jewish Scriptures have an understanding of life which goes on for ever.

We start with the words of Job, who is thought to have lived around the time of Abraham (Gen 11 - 25)

### **Job 14:1-15 - Job's words**

The words of Job

1-6

Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue. And do You open Your eyes on such a one, and bring me to judgement with Yourself? Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? No one! Since his days are determined, the number of his months is with You; You have appointed his limits, so that he cannot pass. Look away from him that he may rest, till like a hired man he finishes his day.

7-15

For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its tender shoots will not cease. Though its root may grow old in the earth, and its stump may die in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and bring forth branches like a plant.

But man dies and is laid away; indeed he breathes his last and where is he? As water disappears from the sea, and a river becomes parched and dries up, so man lies down and does not rise. **Till the heavens are no more, they will not awake nor be roused from their sleep.**

Oh, that You would hide me in the grave, that You would conceal me until Your wrath is past, that You would appoint me a set time, and remember me! If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, till my change comes. You shall call, and I will answer You; You shall desire the work of Your hands.

## Job 19:14-29 - Job's words

14-22

My relatives have failed, and my close friends have forgotten me. Those who dwell in my house, and my maidservants, count me as a stranger; I am an alien in their sight. I call my servant, but he gives no answer; I beg him with my mouth. My breath is offensive to my wife, and I am repulsive to the children of my own body. Even young children despise me; I arise, and they speak against me.

All my close friends abhor me, And those whom I love have turned against me. My bone clings to my skin and to my flesh, And I have escaped by the skin of my teeth. "Have pity on me, have pity on me," O you my friends, for the hand of God has struck me! Why do you persecute me as God does, and are not satisfied with my flesh?

23-29

Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were inscribed in a book! That they were engraved on a rock with an iron pen and lead, forever! **For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth;** and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

If you should say, 'How shall we persecute him?' - since the root of the matter is found in me, be afraid of the sword for yourselves; for wrath brings the punishment of the sword, *that you may know there is a judgement.*

### The Pit / corruption - Job 9:31, 17:14 and 5 times in Job 33.

Strong's H7845 shachath [shakh' - ath]; from H7743; a pit (especially as a trap); figuratively, destruction: - corruption, destruction, ditch, grave, pit.

23 occurrences - AV: corruption 4, pit 14, destruction 2, ditch 2, grave 1

## Job 33:14-33 - Elihu's words

14-18

For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, And seals their instruction. In order to turn man from his deed, And conceal pride from man, He keeps back his soul from the Pit, and his life from perishing by the sword.

19-28

Man is also chastened with pain on his bed, and with strong pain in many of his bones, so that his life abhors bread, and his soul succulent food. His flesh wastes away from sight, and his bones stick out which once were not seen. Yes, his soul draws near the Pit, and his life to the executioners.

If there is a messenger for him, a mediator, one among a thousand, to show man His uprightness, then He is gracious to him, and says, '**Deliver him from going down to the Pit; I have found a ransom**'; his flesh shall be young like a child's, he shall return to the days of his youth.

He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him, he shall see His face with joy, for He restores to man His righteousness. Then he looks at men and says, 'I have sinned, and perverted what was right, and it did not profit me.' He will redeem his soul from going down to the Pit, and his life shall see the light.

29-33

Behold, God works all these things, twice, in fact, three times with a man, to bring back his soul from the Pit, that he may be enlightened with the light of life.

Give ear, Job, listen to me; Hold your peace, and I will speak. If you have anything to say, answer me; speak, for I desire to justify you. If not, listen to me; hold your peace, and I will teach you wisdom.

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## 1 Sam 2:1-10 - Hannah's words

1-5

And Hannah prayed and said: "My heart rejoices in the LORD; my horn is exalted in the LORD. I smile at my enemies, Because I rejoice in Your salvation. No one is holy like the LORD, for there is none besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly; let no arrogance come from your mouth, for the LORD is the God of knowledge; and by Him actions are weighed.

The bows of the mighty men are broken, and those who stumbled are girded with strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, and the hungry have ceased to hunger. Even the barren has borne seven, And she who has many children has become feeble."

6-10

"The LORD kills and makes alive; **He brings down to the grave and brings up.** The LORD makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and lifts up. He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the beggar from the ash heap, to set them among princes and make them inherit the throne of glory. 'For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, And He has set the world upon them.'

He will guard the feet of His saints, but the wicked shall be silent in darkness. 'For by strength no man shall prevail.' The adversaries of The LORD shall be broken in pieces; from heaven He will thunder against them. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth. 'He will give strength to His king, and exalt the horn of His anointed.'"

## Psalm 16 - A Michtam of David

Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust. O my soul, you have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, My goodness is nothing apart from You."

As for the saints who are on the earth, "They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight." Their sorrows shall be multiplied who hasten after another god; their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, nor take up their names on my lips.

O LORD, You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup; You maintain my lot. The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; yes, I have a good inheritance. I will bless the LORD who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the night seasons.

I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; my flesh also will rest in hope. **For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.** You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forever more. (*corruption = the Pit*)

## Psalm 103:1-5 - A Psalm of David

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases,

**who redeems your life from destruction**, who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

## Psalm 73:21-28 - A Psalm of Asaph

Thus my heart was grieved, and I was vexed in my mind.

I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.

Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand.

You will guide me with Your counsel, **and afterward receive me to glory.**

Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for

harlotry.

But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all Your works.

## **Psalm 49 - To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.**

1-9

Hear this, all peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together. My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall give understanding.

I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will disclose my dark saying on the harp. Why should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity at my heels surrounds me?

Those who trust in their wealth and boast in the multitude of their riches, none of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him - for the redemption of their souls is costly, and it shall cease forever - **that he should continue to live eternally, and not see the Pit.**

10-14

For he sees wise men die; likewise the fool and the senseless person perish, and leave their wealth to others. Their inner thought is that their houses will last forever, their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. Nevertheless man, though in honour, does not remain; he is like the beasts that perish.

This is the way of those who are foolish, and of their posterity who approve their sayings. Selah

Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall be consumed in the grave, far from their dwelling.

15-20

**But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave, for He shall receive me.** Selah

Do not be afraid when one becomes rich, when the glory of his house is increased; for when he dies he shall carry nothing away; his glory shall not descend after him. Though while he lives he blesses himself (For men will praise you when you do well for yourself), he shall go to the generation of his fathers; They shall never see light. A man who is in honour, yet does not understand, is like the beasts that perish.

*To be continued...*