

Week 09
053/312

Transforming Daily
“... still in your sins ...”
1 Corinthians 15:17

Paul uses a great deal of algebraic formula in his grammar to conclude that, regarding the resurrection, or the lack there of, without the resurrection from the dead, one is still in their sins. His premise of course is based on the resurrection of Christ. Simply put, if God didn't, or couldn't, or wouldn't raise Christ from the dead, why would He raise the saints? It is actually a very sound argument regarding the power of the resurrection.

In part, this is why the down payment of the promise of God for salvation through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit is so important. He is really the only evidence that the transaction will and has taken place. The believer is not in heaven yet. He or she, if still living, hasn't yet experienced bodily resurrection (that's Paul's point in v.18). Therefore, the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life, through faith, is that only “tangible” expression of the promise of God for the resurrection.

All things being equal, a female infant is born within her the seed(s) to bear a child (or children), but she must first born. Furthermore, an acorn is an oak tree once it is deposited, broken, and geminated in the soil. These examples illustrate the power of life inherently endowed within them from God. Life is according to His power. In the case of bodily resurrection, it's His resurrection power. The miracle of Lazarus coming forth when called upon by Jesus would have been less dramatic had he not died, been buried, and already entombed. It was the same power that Christ called upon to raise Lazarus from the grave that raised Christ from the tomb, and will one day be exercised to raise the believer.

That same resurrection power is the power that brings us forgiveness of sins and eternal life in heaven. Without it, there is no forgiveness of sins. Have you been forgiven of your sins through the power of Christ? Are you trusting in His resurrection power as the hope that lies within you for eternal life? If His resurrection power isn't so, then you, as well as every believer, are still in your sins.