## Heaven, Hell and the Christian Hope



# Table 19 And 19

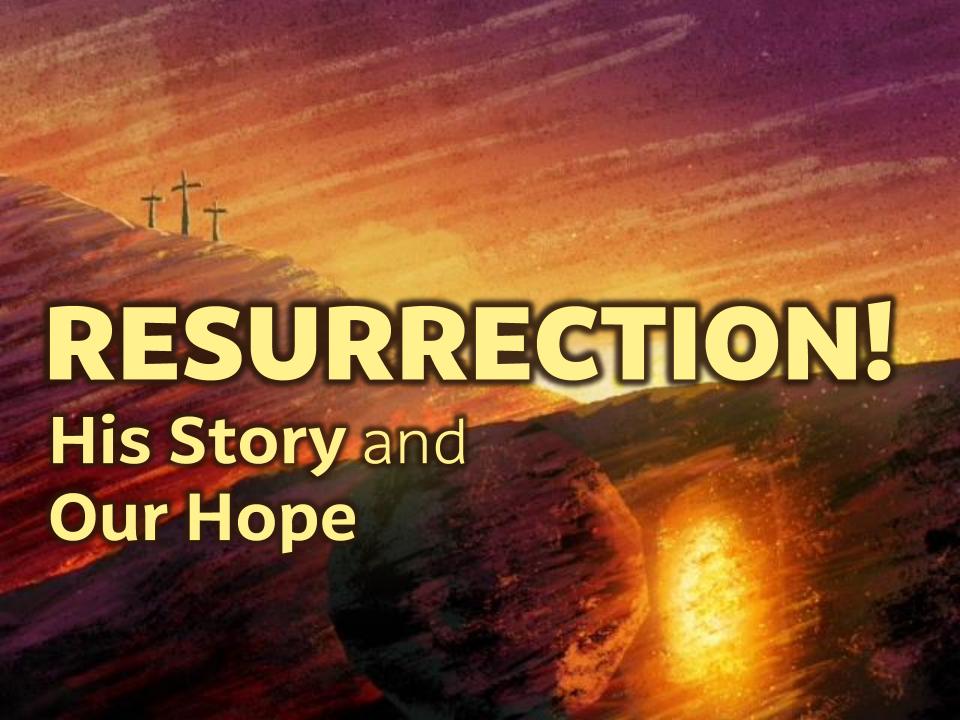


Eternity without God

# LIVING HOPE:

Anchor of the soul





# Jesus' Resurrection and Ours



Resurrection and the Redemption of Creation



### ETERNAL GLORY

What will Heaven be like?





#### GGA on heaven & hell



Will there be degrees of punishment in hell, reward in heaven



### it is supported by reason



# we insist that punishment should "fit" the crime



# there are degrees of guilt, hence degrees of punishment



### it is supported by revelation



## we are judged individually for what each one has done



rev 21: 22-26

And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.... And Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.

### 2COr 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

#### "according to their works"

psalms 62:12 proverbs 24:12 matthew 16:27 romans 2:6; 14:12 1 Peter 1:17 revelation 2:22; 22:12

### punishment for some is more severe





But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you.



But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you.

#### note:

they were condemned, not for any evil they actively committed against Jesus,

#### note:

but they because they were indifferent toward him!

### punishment is relative to opportunity



the greater the opportunity the greater the accountablity the greater the guilt the greater the punishment this makes our situation among the worst possible from which to enter eternity unprepared!



And that servant who knew his master's will but did not get ready or act according to his will, will receive a severe beating. But the one who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, will receive a light beating.



Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.

#### note:

ignorance does not excuse

#### note:

we are responsible not only for what we know, but what we could/should know

heb 12: 26-29

For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.



Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.

### heb 12: 26-29

#### How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?

# consider categories



## preachers, teachers



Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

## ezek 3: 17-19

Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.

### ezek 3: 17-19

If I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked person shall die for his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.

## ezek 3: 17-19

But if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, or from his wicked way, he shall die for his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

# leaders, elders, shepherds

# ezek 34: 1-10

Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord God...

# ezek 34: 9-10

...therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: Thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand...

# heb <sub>13:17</sub>

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

# we are rewarded according to our faithfulness



mat 25:21

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

1COT 3: 13-15

...each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.

1COT 3: 13-15

If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

#### note:

"reward" does not mean meriting salvation

#### note:

but what we receive based on what we have done with what we have been entrusted with

# final considerations



this does not mean some will be comfortable in hell, or unhappy in heaven

# heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people

# all in heaven will enjoy it to the extent to which they are capable

that will be determined by what we have done now to prepare for it

how critical, then, that we serve faithfully, and cultivate the desire to be with the Lord

our choices, our priorities, our commitments, our time, our thoughts and actions are shaping us for eternity!

