Exciting 8th day Feast, 2023 New Beginnings



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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

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Summary: What does the day after the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles, called the 8th day, mean? WHY is it called 8th day? What happens to everyone who never even had a chance of knowing the Christ and then died? Are there people up in heaven – or hell – right now? What makes this 8th day so special? Find out when Heaven comes to earth and what that will be like. Find out why the first resurrection is the better resurrection. Are people resurrected to spirit bodies or flesh and blood bodies – or does it depend on which resurrection? Find out and praise God.

Hi, everyone. I'm giving this on the eve of "the 8th Day Holyday", God's appointed time with us just after the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles. For many years many called it "the Last Great Day" from John 7:37-39, when Jesus spoke on the last day of the seven-day Feast of Tabernacles. That can't be the 8th day and I have a full sermon explaining it if you need it.

Most of us have probably lost a much-loved relative who never came to accept Jesus as his or her savior. Maybe some were relatives, and you knew they had ongoing sins like <u>drunkenness or womanizing and</u> <u>adultery</u> or whatever. What happens to them after they die? Are they suffering in hell fire right now? And for some of you, you may have lost some who died who would have said they knew Jesus – but you know they never came to understand truth as you do. So what happens to *those* people?

<u>This day, which the Bible calls "the 8th day", is about new</u> <u>beginnings; break with the old and start anew. EIGHT is for NEW.</u>

8 = **new**. There were 8 people in Noah's Ark to be the start of a new world. Circumcision covenant was done on the 8th day. David was the 8th son to start a new dynasty. The 8th day starts a new week. **The new covenant** scriptures – the New Testament – were penned **by 8 men** (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Paul, Peter, Jude, James).

And this day is about when GOD himself makes ALL things new (Rev. 21:5) – including the future of billions of people, as we shall see.

Remember sabbaths and holy days always begin the eve before.

<u>8TH DAY FEAST – Actually very little is said about it.</u>

Leviticus 23:36

"For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to YHVH. **On <u>the</u>** <u>eighth day</u> you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the Lord. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it."

"8th day" – that's what this day is called correctly.

Leviticus 23:39-40

'Also on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep the feast [Hebrew "*moed*" – appointment with God] of YHVH for seven days; **on the first day there shall be a sabbath-rest**, **and** <u>**on the eighth day**</u> **a sabbath-rest**."

After **Solomon** dedicated the temple he had built as a House of God, everyone stayed around for the Feast of Tabernacles. Notice how scripture separates the 8th day from the seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles.

2 Chronicles 7:8-9

"At that time Solomon **kept the feast** <u>seven</u> **days**, and all Israel with him, a very great assembly from the entrance of Hamath to the Brook of Egypt.

9 And on <u>the eighth day</u> they held a sacred assembly, for they observed the dedication of the altar seven days, *and the feast seven days*."

Nehemiah 8:18- kept *the feast* 7 days and a sacred assembly on the 8th day.

God loves "NEW".

<u>Isaiah 43:18-19</u>

"Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old.

19 Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert."

To me this day is not just another holyday that I need to explain doctrinally. *To me, this day is.... our first son David.* It's not just a doctrinal belief for me. He died so very, very young when Carole and I were just 29 years old. The shock and pain were beyond description.

Since losing our son, I also lost my dad the next year -- when I was 30 and then lost my mom when I was 40. I'm 70 now. Plus I lost my grandparents, then my sister a few years ago, and my uncles and aunts and some cousins. My wife has also lost her dad and mom. All the other deaths put together didn't compare to the pain of losing our first boy somehow.

So what will happen to my son? What happens to those who died without accepting their Savior? Of course my son was much too young to have done that.

Now let's get back to the exciting meaning of the 8th Day Feast.

I remember overhearing a minister who was to cover the meaning of the 8th day feast wondering out loud what to say about this day's sermon as he had preached it so many times. "How can I make it interesting?" He seemed bored to have to cover this day – this exciting day! Let's remember not to get so tied down by details that we forget the excitement of the holy day – whether it's about the 8th day or Trumpets or Atonement.

Well to me, this is not just a sermon. To me, as I'll explain more later, to me, *this day is about being with -- our son again. And many others*.

So here we are at **the end of the Feast of Tabernacles**, we've made some good new friends, and we've been taught God's way, and we're already feeling sad about having to go home. When I was 14-15-16 years old, I'd usually made new friends among the boys and girls – and they'd be gone soon. And then when everyone stood up to sing as the last song of the last service, <u>"God be with you, til we meet again..."</u> – it felt so sad, and many sang it with tears rolling down their faces. But for us, that won't be sung until tomorrow night.

Those of you who helped our brothers and sisters in Kenya have a feast of Tabernacles, thank you! Over 550 have been keeping the Feast this year over there. The means of having this feast for a place so poor became possible because you showed them love so they could have food, accommodation, water, a place to meet, and so much more. So thank you.

Remember too, we **keep these holydays partly to remind us of God's plan to save the whole world.** We especially see that in Passover season, Day of atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles and 8th day.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE?

<u>Most of Christianity teaches</u> that we all have an **immortal soul**; that when we die our "soul" instantly goes either to Heaven with God, or to hell. Our soul is the innermost being of our life. Souls can die (Ezek 18:4) But actually, what scripture really teaches is that when anyone dies – righteous or wicked – we all go into the ground and await the resurrection. The Bible compares it to being asleep. Jesus even called Lazarus' death as just a "sleep" (John 11:5-15). And Jesus himself said, "NO MAN has ascended to heaven" (John 3:13). Peter says not even King David is in heaven (Acts 2:34).

So what's the truth about what happens when we die?

<u>To answer this, look at the holydays we've observed this year as</u> <u>it's God's holy days that reveal his plan of salvation for everyone.</u>

- Remember <u>first that God's plan begins with his SON</u> making the way possible for eternal life for each of us by dying for us, so we won't have to die for our sins. "The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life" Rom. 6:23. This is what the Passover season is all about.
- Then <u>Pentecost</u> and the giving of God's Law and Holy Spirit and probably when the resurrection of the firstfruits happens. We who are being called now are called God's Firstfruits (James 1:18). God is not calling everyone right now nor saving everyone right now. So doesn't it make sense that the first resurrection of firstfruits happens on the Feast that is called the day of Firstfruits? Then we go up to <u>heaven to get married (Rev. 19) while the seven last plagues</u> <u>are being poured out on earth (Rev. 16). There in heaven we receive</u> <u>new names, and assignments</u>, then we return to earth with our Husband Jesus the Christ, probably pictured by the next holy day – Trumpets.
- **TRUMPETS finally, the world gets a new Leader and his team, which includes YOU** -- and then we land on the Mount of Olives. From there He sets up a new world government. But it will not even know what day it is with all the destruction of electronics, timekeepers AND it will be hard to even see the sun and moon.
 - <u>But don't assume the world, this planet, will suddenly be the</u> <u>Garden of Eden again</u>. It will be, eventually, but the chaos and destruction will be total, everywhere (see graphics on video).

• **Day of Atonement** -- and King Jesus/Yeshua begins the lengthy process of reconciling sinful world to himself. Remember almost the whole world *fought* Jesus Christ as he returned to rule the earth. Reconciling won't happen overnight. Atonement is all about Jesus Christ and his work to make peace and reconciliation. Nobody else.

I said this will be a lengthy process because He won't force people. It will take many years.

Rev 20:1-3 Then Satan is BOUND and put away before the Millennial rule of Christ begins. No doubt that includes all his demons. But keep in mind that no human sins are placed on him though. And he's bound, not wandering around. He's placed into the "bottomless pit" – a deep abyss – for 1,000 years, then he's released again.

Revelation 20:1-3

"Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, **having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand**. 2 He laid hold of the <u>dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him</u> for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into <u>the bottomless pit</u>, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while."

(There's much more being said in the video) Demons hate this abyss remember. See the story in **Luke 8:26-33** and also **Revelation 9** in interesting. Some super bad demons are kept there.

- Now the troublemaker Satan is bound not set free to roam, notice, but is bound.
- SO now the thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ can begin! The Feast of TABERNACLES is for 7 days – to remind us of our lives and this world and millennium itself are all temporary. So what happens next?

Revelation 20:4-6

"And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then **I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness** to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. <u>And they lived and reigned with Christ for a</u> <u>thousand years</u>. (Note: the word "millennium" means 1,000 years.)

5 But <u>the REST of the DEAD did not live again UNTIL</u> the **thousand years were finished. (This is the first resurrection.)** 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the <u>first resurrection. Over</u> <u>such the second death has no power</u>, but they shall be **priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.**"

So what did we just read? Those belonging to God have been resurrected to immortal life. Death can't touch them. That's us.

Condition of this planet at first: So we arrive back on earth riding angelic spirit chargers with Christ after the wedding to the Lamb of God, but what will be the condition of the world when Christ first takes over? **Utter destruction**.

So what will we be doing? *We will have to win the hearts and minds of everyone* and convince them that this time, the government will be different. Remember, most of the world fought us when we returned with Christ. Everything will be different. It will be a mess. And we'll be a huge part of helping people rebuild.

(In the video, I describe possible scenarios of how we win people over.)

We'll be reuniting families. We'll be doing a lot of healing of the wounded and those suffering from terrorism, atomic bombs, etc.

We'll be providing peace and safety for those turning to God.

Israel will be brought back from captivity, and we'll have a part in that.

There will be a **lot of rebuilding and restoring the whole world. Everything I've said so far is about the thousand-year period, called "the Millennium" – not the 8th day yet.**

After beginning like that, what else will be happening?

<u>*This*</u> is the period of deserts blossoming like the rose (Isa 35:1). On your own, read all of Isaiah 35 to see what the millennium will be like.

Isaiah 11 -- King David, under King of kings Jesus, will rule Israel with righteousness and justice. And then in v 6-9 we read of the lion and lamb, and a little child leading them, and they shall never again hurt or destroy in my holy mountain. Even the nature of wild animals will change!

Isaiah 2/**Micah 4** – all nations will come up to Jerusalem to learn of God's ways and worship the King.

Isaiah 35 – A lot of healing is going on. The dumb shall sing. The blind will delight in what they now see. The deserts blossom.

But I understand you've had some excellent sermons describing how the World tomorrow will be so different and so much better than today's world.

**** THEN ONE MORE HOLYDAY – The DAY AFTER the FOT – CALLED in scripture simply "The 8th day". That's its name!** God doesn't go for long, elaborate titles and descriptions of what he does. He keeps things simple – remember "the simplicity in Christ".

There are billions of people who are dead, who <u>will live again</u> AFTER the thousand years. We just read that and let's read it again.

Revelation 20:5

"the REST of the dead did not live again UNTIL the thousand years are finished."

Revelation 20:7-10

"<u>Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be</u> <u>released</u> from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.

9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and **surrounded the camp** of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

10 **The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire** and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are (were) and will be tormented day and night forever and ever."

So even with all that good news happening DURING the millennium, AFTER the millennium, when Satan is released for a short time, things go bad very quickly. WHY is he released?

- People born during the Millennium had never faced the Tempter
- We all need to face him and resist the Devil and reject him. But many who had never faced him before succumb to his lying temptations.

Satan immediately finds and convinces many hundreds of thousands or more, to rebel and fight God. So there's still a massive war and massive death for a time even right <u>after</u> the Millennium.

So <u>remember the 1000 years is OVER when this happens</u>. The meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles –picturing the Millennium 1000 years, *if <u>that is right</u>* – is over also. Remember, on prophecy, I ride loose in the saddle". Much of what we read in Revelation 20-21-22 are nowhere else mentioned in the Bible.

The EIGHTH DAY and the "Second Resurrection"

We're about to read what happens next: the next resurrection.

• Now we know there's a resurrection called the 'FIRST resurrection" – which implies more resurrections to come (Rev. 20:5-6) – <u>after</u> the thousand years is over. There's a thousand-year time lapse between the first and any succeeding resurrections. "<u>The REST of the dead</u> did not live again until the thousand years is over" (Rev. 20:5).

So the first resurrection of saints is called just that – **"FIRST resurrection"** -but only these 2 times in Rev. 20:5 and 6. Then we're going to read about another resurrection, which <u>we</u> call "the SECOND resurrection" though that exact title is nowhere found in scripture.

There's the first resurrection and then there's the next one, so I'm calling it the 2nd resurrection - - in Rev. 20:11-12, but first let's be reminded of what had been said about the resurrections prior to this.

The EARLIER Bible TEACHINGS ON The RESURRECTION(S)

Prior to Rev 20, the first and the next or second resurrection *weren't so clearly explained in detail*. What we had was simply called "the resurrection of the just and the unjust" or "to life eternal or condemnation". I'll post some examples in my notes.

Here are some descriptions of those who are resurrected to eternal life before it was called "the first resurrection".

Jesus was given a scenario by the Sadducees who did not believe in the resurrection: if a man dies without providing any children for his wife, she can

remarry the brother... but it that 2^{nd} brother dies, and 3^{rd} dies, etc. – whose wife will she be, for they all had her as wife.

Luke 20:34-36

Jesus answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and **the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; nor** <u>can they die anymore</u>, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection."

Jesus initially kept it simple: there will be a resurrection either to life or death. So it's understandable that people believe everyone must

accept Jesus now or be damned for eternity. But more information was revealed to Apostle John in Revelation 20, so we have that now to add to the picture.

John 5:28-29 (Jesus kept it simple)

"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which ALL who are in the <u>graves will hear His voice and come forth</u> — those who have done good, to the <u>resurrection of life</u>, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation."

At Lazarus' resurrection – Jesus and Martha had a discussion.

John 11:23-26

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in <u>the</u> resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "<u>I am the resurrection and the life</u>. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Now add to this, something else: the right understanding of what happens when we die. We do not go straight to heaven or hell. There's a "spirit IN MAN" that goes to God who gave it. But it's not called the soul.

HEAVEN OR HELL?

<u>We know that nobody right now is in heaven.</u> Jesus said so. Remember that Jesus said so clearly:

<u>John 3:13</u>

"NO man has ascended to heaven, except the son of man."

<u>The righteous dead are in a sleep for now</u>, spiritually. Jesus said Lazarus was sleeping (John 11:11-15). Paul says those who sleep in Christ are raised first **(1 Thess 4:13, 15-17)**

Ecclesiastes 3:20-21

"All go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust. 21 Who knows the spirit of the sons of men, which goes upward, and the spirit of the animal, which goes down to the earth?

Ecclesiastes 12:7

"Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it."

(In the video I mention the story in Luke 8:49-56 about how when Jairus' daughter had died, this dead girl's spirit returned to her, and she regained consciousness and lived again.)

Your spirit is not an immortal soul – but a record of exactly who you are, what you've done, what you've been forgiven, and if you have accepted Jesus. Remember the soul can die. "The soul who sins shall die" – Ezek. 18:4, 20.

And remember Jesus himself said no human has gone to heaven (John 3:13), not even David (Acts 2:34). And the wages of sin is death, not eternal life being tortured in hell.

So first of all, of all those resurrected to SPIRIT life, was Jesus Christ the first fruit. We call him the "first of the first fruits" because we are also called "firstfruits" (See James 1:18). Jesus – Yeshua – will have many brothers and sisters, notice:

Romans 8:29

"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that <u>He [the Christ] might be the</u> <u>firstborn among MANY brethren</u>."

So Jesus is the FIRST OF The FIRSTFRUITS.

<u>1 Corinthians 15:20-23</u>

"But now Christ is risen from the dead and <u>has become the</u> <u>firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep</u>.

21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. **22** For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

23 <u>But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits</u>, afterwards those who are Christ's at His coming."

So through Christ, we also have the resurrection *after* him, as firstfruits, *through* Him. We ARE also called firstfruits – James 1:18b.

So nobody right now is being tortured in hell fire or playing harps in heaven. The wages of sin is DEATH, not eternal life being tortured forever by a loving God. All the dead are "asleep" awaiting their awakening.

Revelation 20 fills in some gaps. There's a first resurrection to eternal life – and the REST of the dead do not live again til the thousand years is over.

Revelation 20:5-6

"But <u>the REST of the DEAD did not live again UNTIL</u> the thousand years were finished. (This is the first resurrection.) 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the <u>first resurrection. Over</u> <u>such the second death has no power</u>, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

So let's read what happens AFTER The THOUSAND years is over when the "rest of the dead" come to life again.

The SECOND RESURRECTION – The HOPE OF 8TH DAY

Revelation 20:11-12

"Then I **saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it,** from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and <u>books</u> were <u>opened</u>. And <u>another book</u> was <u>opened</u>, which is the <u>Book of Life</u>. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books."

NOTICE, those who had NOT been in the first resurrection are brought back to life again after the thousand years is over and books are opened to them.

Re-read v 12 – they're standing before "the throne" in modern translations, but NKJV says "before God" – that's Jesus Christ. BOOKS are open. The Greek here for "books" is "*biblion*". It means volumes, rolls of parchments, books, documents. *It's the same word used for the HOLY Bible, which means "holy books"*. Are you getting it?

Their works without Christ will be dead works worthy of death, but each will have the word of God OPENED to them and they will be taught the plan of salvation, just as you were. And they will be taught how to accept King Jesus now as their Savior, just as His Bride did.

These are the billions upon billions of people who never had had the Bible opened to them, many had never SEEN a Bible, most had never heard the name Yeshua or Jesus or Christ- and yet it's through the ONE NAME "Jesus" that we must be saved, and no other (**Acts 4:12**).

So they have the Bible opened to their understanding, is the way I read it. Otherwise would it not be so unfair of God to condemn them if they never even had a chance to know and accept Christ?

BILLIONS – we're told it could range from 20-40 BILLION -- are dead and waiting right now. We're not told if this will be one big resurrection or many separate ones in stages of resurrections. Maybe Israel first, then some Gentile nations, maybe successive resurrections – all considered to be a part of the general term "Second Resurrection" back to human fleshly life all being called by God for salvation. Scripture just doesn't tell us every detail. That's my view at least, but we'll see. Or maybe groups will be resurrected by the age they lived in – pre-Flood, pre-Israel, and those alive from Moses to Christ, and so on. Who knows? We're not given that detail.

And before a person could even come to Jesus, God the Father must call them to salvation. *(John 6:44).* They must first BE CALLED by God, have their minds opened, be exposed to the name Jesus once their mind's opened.... then they decide, just like you and I had to.

- God is a God of ORDER, not confusion.
- They're judged by their works. Their works, like yours and mine was sin, resulting in death, and so they are all sinners worthy of death. That's their 'works'. But the GOOD news of Jesus Christ is preached to them, as well as the way out of their death sentence just like you and I were given that open door.
- As they choose for God, they have their names written in God's BOOK OF LIFE, which for the FIRST time, is opened to them.

Understand: The Bible gives scant little detail about the resurrections. My point is: Frankly nobody knows all the details of the resurrections, no matter

how confidently they may write or speak. We know there's a first, and there's more who are to live again after the thousand years is up.

So we DO know this:

- The First resurrection is called exactly that the FIRST resurrection. Rev. 20:6 and it is to immortal spirit life. Those in the first resurrection can never die again. (Rev. 20:6; 1 Cor. 15:49-54)
- The next resurrection, I'll call it the "second resurrection", is NOT to immortal life but back to PHYSICAL LIFE, as I'll show you.

Many of you have lost loved ones to car accidents, murder, war, disease, and hundreds of other issues. <u>You WILL see your son,</u> <u>your daughter, and your loved ones again.</u> You will, you absolutely will. You MIGHT even be allowed to help resurrect them!

These loved ones of yours and all the others, will be resurrected into what? A **perfectly healthy body** with no more pain, no more injury, no more disease. NO more cancer, Alzheimer's, leukemia, COPD, or anything else. (Story of visiting old sister in Christ in the hospital who was in horrible pain.)

What about all the Abortion babies or maybe even miscarriages: *I don't think any man or woman can end anyone else's chances for eternal life.* This is speculation, but I believe firmly that every intentionally aborted fetus could very well be resurrected somehow as well. Just thinking out loud. After our son David died, my wife had 2 miscarriages on top of his death. Maybe those will be given new life as well. I don't know. We'll see someday.

What about terribly wicked people and cities that never really came to know Jesus, like Sodom and Gomorrah or ancient Rome? Our Father is a merciful God. Yeshua His Son is a merciful Judge. He can also be very severe. When He decides to spank, He spanks hard. We know, for example, how He treated **ancient Sodom and Gomorrah**, cities full of *every* kind of sin (Ezekiel 16:48-52). We know them for their sin of sodomy, but scripture is clear in other contexts that **they had many kinds of sins going on** – pride, idleness, etc. It was just a very wicked city.

But in the judgment, they will have a "*more tolerable* time" than the regular cities in Jesus' day who would not heed him or come to repentance. *We all must REPENT!*

Matthew 11:23-24

Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, *because they did not* <u>repent</u>:

21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

22 But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the Day of Judgment than for you.

23 And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; *for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.*

24 But I say to you that it shall be *more tolerable for the land of Sodom* in the day of judgment than for you."

So, it is speaking of Sodom as still awaiting the Day of Judgment! They're not already all judged and already in hell or anywhere else. They just wait. And they will have an easier time of it than Capernaum will! Ponder that one! When they are resurrected, I believe many will "get it" quickly and repent and come into life.

So all those who died, never knowing Christ, your loved ones, your friends, and our little David, he was so young and so small – what are they resurrected to? They won't come up to a destroyed earth.

-They'll come up into a global GARDEN OF EDEN again... a beautiful world. No more war ever again at all. **Who knows? Maybe God will even let you be a part of resurrecting some of our own loved ones.**

<u>Be sure YOU are going to be there to greet them</u> and comfort them. Be sure YOU are there in the first resurrection, ahead of them, in other words to assure them they're in a much better time and place.

Ezekiel 37:13-14 – **the Valley of the Dry Bones**, goes into depth about resurrection to <u>physical</u> life. Many call this the "Second resurrection." This is about the dead of Israel, but in the new covenant, there is no more Jew or Gentile, so the same will happen, I'm sure, for all the dead who were Gentiles. In their time, in their order.

As I read this, think about people you know who never really knew Jesus or turned to him, or who died without being in the book of Life.

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of YHVH came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of YHVH and set me down in the midst of the valley; <u>and it was full</u> <u>of bones</u>. 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, <u>can these bones live?"</u>

So I answered, "O Lord God, You know."

4 Again He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!

5 Thus says YHVH God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall LIVE.

6 I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am YHVH.""

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone.8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

9 Also He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says YHVH God: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.""

10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and BREATH came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, <u>an exceedingly</u> <u>great army</u>.

11 Then He said to me, "Son of man<u>, these bones are the whole house of Israel</u>. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'

12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says YHVH God: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

13 Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves.

14 <u>I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live</u>, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, Yehovah, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD (YHVH)."

So that's part of the 2nd resurrection being duplicated in its time everywhere.

WHAT HAPPENS exactly after that, and WHEN, we're not told clearly. I suspect as or when people in each group accept Jesus, they are changed also to spirit beings.

<u>BUT those who do not repent and accept Jesus, will die, waiting</u> for the final resurrection of justice for all those who won't accept

<u>**God's mercy</u>** for their sins if they would just repent. In the past, we've called the final resurrection for those who must receive their death penalty, the "second death", we've called it "the THIRD Resurrection" because what follows seems to be people destined for the Lake of Fire and condemnation.</u>

The first death is one we all must eventually go through for simply being human flesh and blood. "It's appointed for men once to die..."

But the Second Death is the death PENALTY for unforgiven sin for those who won't accept God's mercy through Jesus as their Savior and won't repent of their sins and won't accept God's merciful forgiveness if they would receive it. So they must pay for their own sin debt themselves.

The FOREVER LOST -- Those CONSIGNED to The Lake of Fire.

Revelation 20:13-15

"The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. **This is the second death.** 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

So what's left are those who died – knowing about Christ but decided to reject him. They are the ones described in **Heb 6:4-6 and Hebrews 10:27-29** – that all they can see ahead of them is a certain fearful judgment.

We all have one great shot at being saved, but if we turn away from that, we'll burn up to ashes (Mal 4:3) in the lake of fire. Now is OUR only day of Salvation – for all of us who have been called and had our minds enlightened. (2 Cor. 6:2 is true for saints of God. NOW is our day of Salvation.)

Hebrews 6:4-6

"For it is impossible for those who were once **enlightened**, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become **partakers of the Holy Spirit**, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 <u>if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance</u>,

<u>since they crucify again</u> for themselves the Son of God and put Him to an open shame".

Hebrews 10:26-28

"For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses."

So when we understand God's plan of salvation, he's not even trying to save as many people as possible right now. But those of you who have been called, have been baptized into Christ, have received God's Holy Spirit – NOW is your and my time, so let's not blow it.

WE will have a part in giving understanding to all those coming up in the next resurrection after the first. Your job will be like Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch – showing the way to Christ the Savior and bringing them to salvation. (Much more on the video)

Now the truly new beginnings continue

NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH

Revelation 21:1-21

"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, <u>for the first heaven</u> <u>and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more</u> <u>sea.</u>

2 Peter 3:10-13

10 "But the day of YHVH will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

11 <u>Therefore</u>, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."

Anyone not a spirit being by now will be burned up with the entire universe being burned up. The whole universe will be, I believe, composed of spirit. There's no decay, no rust, no corruption in the new world (Matthew 6:19-20).

Again, this is why there are no booths up on the 8th day, no temporary quarters, on the 8TH DAY – as it pictures this time of renewal followed by <u>permanence!</u> It's a time of new starts! Remember Israel was told to dwell in booths for seven days.

All humans who have chosen Father's way – because after all Father does know best in this case -- will be spirit beings by then (**1 John 3:1-3; 1 Cor. 15:50-55**). Imagine being able to watch the universe be dissolved in fervent heat of trillions of degrees, of powerful black holes sucking everything up, of billions of galaxies with billions of stars each – all disappearing.

Then, we'll be able to watch – and maybe in some way participate in – this new universe, the heavens. I don't want to miss this <u>front row seat</u> for anything in the world! When we try to wrap our minds around even our PRESENT universe, it's hard to fathom the sizes, the scope, and the majesty of it all. I have books of photographs taken by Hubbell Telescope and **James Webb space telescope**. I enjoy watching TV programs about our awesome universe. We're going to get to watch a whole new one come into existence!

Then what? **Revelation 21:1-**<u>"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven</u> <u>and earth had ceased to exist, and the sea existed no more".</u> <u>(NET version)</u>

With a brand-new spirit universe, there will be no more of Satan's rebellion **showing in the universe. No more of anything physical. Everything is spirit** now, a SPIRIT UNIVERSE. No more decay, no more rust, no more corruption, just spirit.

<u>Rev 21:2- 14</u>

"Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a BRIDE adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, **"Behold, the TABERNACLE of God is with men, and He will DWELL with them, and they shall be His people."**

Remember Isaiah 46:10 – how God DECLARES the end from the beginning?

<u>GOD HIMSELF will be with them and be their God</u>. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make ALL things NEW." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

6 And **He said to me, "It is done!** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.

7 He who <u>overcomes</u> shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, **"Come, I will show you the BRIDE, the Lamb's wife."**

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high **MOUNTAIN**, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, **descending out of heaven from God**, **11** having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

<u>Revelation 21:15-27 NET</u>

15 The angel who spoke to me had a golden measuring rod with which to measure the city and its foundation stones and wall.

16 Now the city is laid out as a square, its length and width the same. He measured the city with the measuring rod at fourteen

hundred miles (its length and width and height are equal). (2253 KM) 17 He also measured its wall, one hundred forty-four cubits according to human measurement, which is also the angel's.

18 The city's wall is made of jasper and the city is pure gold, like transparent glass. 19 The foundations of the city's wall are decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation is jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. 21 And the twelve gates are twelve pearls - **each one of the gates is made from just one pearl!** The main street of the city is pure gold, like transparent glass.

22 Now I saw no temple in the city, because the Lord God - the All-Powerful - and the Lamb are its temple. **23** The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, because the glory of God lights it up, and its lamp is the Lamb.

24 The nations will walk by its light and the kings of the earth will bring their grandeur into it. 25 Its gates will never be closed during the day (and there will be no night there). 26 They will bring the grandeur and the wealth of the nations into it, 27 but nothing ritually unclean will ever enter into it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or practices falsehood, but only those whose names **are written in the Lamb's book of life.**"

<u>This day for me is not just a doctrine. This day is about my son</u>, who died as an infant. And it's about all your sons and daughters, fathers and mothers and friends.

The Eternal God allowed mortals to resurrect others by His power: Elisha, Paul, Peter – to name a few. Surely there's a chance that some of us in the first resurrection may even be allowed to resurrect our own son or precious daughter, our own mom, our own dad, our own brother!! Hallelujah! I say that as speculation. But at bare minimum, we will be there to witness it.

THE NEW JERUSALEM

Revelation 22:1-7

"And he showed me a **pure river of water of life**, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was **the tree of life**, *which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit* <u>every</u> *month*. The leaves of the

tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse, but **the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. 4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.**

5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for YHVH God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. 6 Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And YHVH God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place.

7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

THEN WHAT? Scripture doesn't tell us. I can just envision Abba, our dear Father, **getting us all together and telling us what happens next.** I can't wait. I you don't want to miss it. Stir yourself up from Laodiceanism, the complacency, the lack of zeal that is out there so much and let's put everything into this relationship with YHVH.

SUMMARY

So this day is all about new beginnings, total oneness with God and with each other, absolute intimacy. In fact we are "in Him", a part of His Body. We will be part of the process of converting the world, teaching the ways of Yah, serving, rebuilding.

- We will get to watch the **massive resurrections** of billions of people into a world that will be a Gan Eden all over the world.
- This is the time you will see your deceased loved ones in the resurrections. This day is, for me, being able to be reunited with my David, my first son.
- We will teach them, lead them, and be the kindest leaders they've never had before; leaders who are themselves led by God's spirit. We need to be practicing that now.
- We will get to watch the new creation of the universe. It's about all things new.
- This day is about the whole universe being new, being as one, one in Father, one in Yeshua, one in another. One body, perfect love.

- We will be the Bride and co-ruler of the universe if we don't lose heart and give up.
- Let's have hope, be upbeat, be cheerful and not let anything pull us down.

Until next time, this is Philip, your brother in our Messiah asking for blessings, peace and shalom to all of you as you walk in *His* light. Until next time.... Shalom and joy!

Closing prayer.

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