NO ZOMBIES ALLOWED: RESURRECTION AND OUR HOPE IN CHRIST

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Greatest fear?

- No zombies! (Ac 13:32-39)
- Resurrection—our hope in Christ

Futile empty tomb theories

- 1. Swoon--Jesus fainted on cross, revived in tomb & appeared "alive" (Blood & water from side proves death—Jn 19:33-34)
- 2. Theft--disciples stole Jesus' body & said He was alive (Guards bribed; should have died for sleeping on job—Mt 28:12-14)
- 3. Hallucination--disciples thought they saw Jesus alive (Thomas touched Him—Jn 20:27-28)
- 4. Fraud--disciples lied about all events (Why die for lie?)

Believer and unbeliever

• 2 parts of you as unbeliever

- 1. Body
- 2. Soul

• God gives spiritual life (Ep 2:4-5; Jn 3:3-6)

• 3 parts of you as believer (1 Th 5:23)

- 1. Body (soma)
- 2. Soul (psuche)
 - Mind, will, emotions
- 3. Spirit (pneuma)
 - Relationship with God

• Death--separation of soul from body (Ec 12:1, 7)

- 1. Body in grave (Ge 3:19)
- 2. Soul
 - Of believers—with God (Ac 7:59)
 - Of unbelievers—without God (1 Pe 3:18-20; Lk 16:19-31)
- 3. No reincarnation (He 9:27)

• Resurrection--rejoining of soul with body on last day (Da 12:2)

• Christ's return & resurrection (1 Th 4:13-18)

- 1. Christ's return (1 Th 4:16)
 - With souls of dead believers (1 Th 4:14)
- 2. Dead believers' bodies change/rise first (1 Th 4:16)
- 3. Living believers' bodies changed instantaneously (1 Co 15:51-52; 1 Th 4:17)
- 4. Dead unbelievers' bodies rise also (Jn 5:28-29)

• Resurrected bodies (1 Co 15:42-54)

- 1. Imperishable—no disease/decay (42)
- 2. Glorified—nothing shameful (43)
- 3. Powerful—no tiring (43)
- 4. Spiritual—not like this natural one (44)
- 5. Christ-like—not like this sinful one (49; Ph 3:21)
- 6. Immortal-no death (53)

• God gives eternal life (1 Co 15:55-58)

• Motivation to witness (C. S. Lewis)

"There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilization—these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit—immortal horrors or everlasting splendors." (*The Weight of Glory*)