THE FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF HEBREWS 6

RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

I. Introduction
A. The resurrection from the dead is the real hope of all Christians.
B. The knowledge of this doctrine provides answers to some basic questions.
   1. What is man’s purpose?
   2. Is there life after death and how will we spend eternity?
   3. What happens to those who never hear of Jesus Christ or to infants who die unbaptized?

II. Teachings of ancient and primitive societies about a resurrection from the dead.
A. Egyptian hieroglyphs on walls of pharaoh’s tombs depict a resurrection. Embalming was done to preserve the body to receive the soul in the future.
B. The Greeks did not believe in a resurrection but did believe in an immortal soul and an afterlife.
C. A variety of primitive cultures today have resurrection rituals. (See The Golden Bough by Sir James Frazer.)

III. Modern Christianity has a variety of beliefs about the resurrection of the dead based primarily on two false doctrines.
A. The belief in the immortality of the soul
B. The belief that now, during this physical life, is the only opportunity for salvation.

IV. The teaching of the resurrection from the dead is found throughout the Old Testament.
A. Job 14:10-15; 19:25-26; Isaiah 26:19; Daniel 12:2, 13
B. Even Moses referred to a prophesied resurrection of saints at Christ’s coming. Deuteronomy 33:1-3
C. The Bible teaches the resurrection is for everyone. Acts 24:14-15; John 5:28-29

V. The First Resurrection
A. What is it? I Corinthians 15:51-56
B. When is it? John 6:44; Revelation 20:1-6; I Thessalonians 4:15-17
C. Who is in it? Romans 8:9-14 – those who have God’s Spirit.
D. The first resurrection is a better resurrection. Hebrews 11:32, 35

VI. The Second Resurrection
A. What is it? Acts 4:12; I Peter 4:17; Ezekiel 37:1-14
B. When is it? Revelation 20:5; Isaiah 65:20

VII. The Third Resurrection
B. Described also in Luke 16:19-31 and II Peter 3:5-7
C. Also referred to in John 5:29 – “…the resurrection of condemnation.” and Acts 24:15 – “…a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.”